

## DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 059 726

LI 003 465

AUTHOR Saxena, Ranvir, Ed  
TITLE All India Library Conference, Indore (XVII, 27th to 30th December 1968). Souvenir.  
INSTITUTION Indore Univ. (India).  
PUB DATE 68  
NOTE 139p.; (1 Reference)  
EDRS PRICE MF-\$0.65 HC-\$6.58  
DESCRIPTORS Conferences; \*Developing Nations; \*Foreign Countries; \*Library Associations; Problems; \*Public Libraries; \*University Libraries  
IDENTIFIERS \*India

## ABSTRACT

The Souvenir is an endeavor to tell the delegate-guests to the All India Library Conference something about Indore. It has special articles on the public and the academic libraries of Indore and presents brief sketches of the development plans of the University of Indore and the University library. This section of the Souvenir also provides fleeting glimpses of the cultural heritage of Malwa and the growth of Indore city. And last, but not least, the Souvenir attempts to focus the attention of library scientists on some of the current library problems, like the problem of personnel and the language problem in libraries.  
(Author/NH)

# **XVII ALL INDIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE**

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**XVII**

# **ALL INDIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE**

**INDORE**

**27th to 30th DECEMBER 1968**

## **SOUVENIR**

*EDITOR*

**DR. RANVIR SAXENA**

*Published by*

**The Reception Committee  
XVII All India Library Conference**

*Under the Auspices of*

**THE UNIVERSITY OF INDORE  
INDORE**

LI 003 465

# XVII ALL INDIA LIBRARY CONFERENCE

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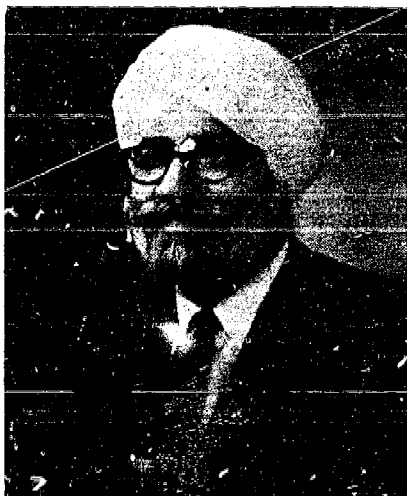
भारत के राष्ट्रपति का सचिव,  
राष्ट्रपति भवन  
नई दिल्ली-४

SECRETARY TO THE PRESIDENT  
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN, NEW DELHI  
October 28, 1968

18th  
Indian  
1968,  
wishe



nt has asked me to thank you for your letter of the  
8, informing him that the 17th Conference of the  
ciation will be held at Indore from the 27th December,  
pices of the University of Indore. He sends his best  
ess of the Conference.



**Sardar Sohan Singh**  
President, Indian Library Association  
&  
President  
XVII All India Library Conference



**Shri K. L. Joshi**  
Vice-Chancellor, University of Indore  
&  
Chairman, Reception Committee



VICE-CHANCELLOR

## FOREWORD

On the occasion of the 17th All-India Library Conference of the Indian Library Association under the auspices of the University of Indore, we have great pleasure in placing before the delegates and other members of the public interested in the library movement, this Souvenir on behalf of the Reception Committee of the Conference and on behalf of the University of Indore.

Some 17 years ago, on the 12th of May 1951, the Indian Library Association had organized their 9th Conference at Indore. From all reports it was one of the successful conferences and some of the members of the Indian Library Association may still have memories of the hospitality then enjoyed and of the arrangements made for the Conference. There was no University of Indore then. Normally these conferences have been organized under the auspices of various universities like the Punjab University two years ago and Mysore University in June 1965. Other Universities have played their part, like those of Patna, Calcutta, Osmania, Nagpur, Baroda, Rajasthan, Bombay and Delhi since the year 1933, when the first conference was held in Calcutta. The Indian Library Association had selected in 1951 Indore not only because it was even then a well known city of learning, but also because it had the potentiality for a centre of library movement apart from its salubrious and inviting climate in the month of May. We are happy again and welcome all our guests.

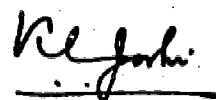
The present Conference is being held here from 27th to 30th December 1968 when there is a certain change in the outlook of the city because it has got its own city University with about 21 affiliated colleges spread over the city and nearly 17,000 students out of whom more than 2,000 students are doing post-graduate courses. It has about 600 teachers in the different Faculties including those of Medicine, Engineering, Dentistry, Ayurved, Music as special professional branches of our academic organization. The University of Indore was established only in 1964 and, therefore, it is one of the young universities trying to make progress towards significant growth and development, coordinating the activities and initiatives of the past. The climate of Malwa hills on which is perched the city of Indore is nature's gift to the people and this important factor along with its singularly central situation and concentration of trade, commerce and industry, with a population of more than 6 lakhs gives the University directions for setting out those objectives which may help its people in producing trained manpower and scholarly citizens who will contribute to the economic and national prosperity.

The world of today is a science-based or knowledge-based world. The world of tomorrow is a world of the educated or knowledgeable man. But education is a lifelong process and the only instrument that is used for this process is the library. Indore has some public libraries indeed. But like the general conditions of such libraries in the country there is dearth of finance, inadequacy of staff and lack of those amenities which the libraries should have for serving the readers and the public. Libraries should be attractive places tempting people to spend their leisure hours amidst well-arranged books and periodicals, so that every citizen is able to make a guarded statement about whatever he has to say in the public on the basis of knowledge of facts and current information.

The University of Indore now proposes to establish an ambitiously conceived University Library which, it is hoped, apart from serving its teachers, research workers and scholars at different levels will be an attractive home or a temple of temptation for all those who are hungry for knowledge and would like to be enthused with those research facilities which a modern University library must provide to the scholars. The relationships between a University Library, the public Libraries and the public have got to be most co-operative and cordial and the University Library should play its role not only for the scholars whom it serves directly but for the enthusiasts of knowledge who would be attracted by its inviting facilities.

The Souvenir contains some informative articles and other material, which I am sure, will be treasured by the delegates to the Conference as a memory of their visit to Indore and by the public at large as a tribute to the labours of all those who have worked for the success of this Conference under the auspices of the University of Indore.

26th December, 1968.



( K. L. JOSHI )

# Editorial

This Souvenir is intended to demonstrate, first and foremost, the high importance that the University of Indore attaches to the library movement in the growth of knowledge and its dissemination for better education and faster national development. It is significant that the establishment of its library has been accorded the top priority in the development programme of the University, and the University of Indore is growing round this vital nucleus. As such, the holding of the XVII All India Library Conference under the auspices of the University of Indore is both meaningful and symbolic.

The importance of the library movement in our developing country and the remarkable role played by the All India Library Association in initiating, fostering and directing the library movement is being spotlighted by the messages of goodwill. Eminent scholars, outstanding educationists and experienced administrators and statesmen have obliged us with their good wishes for the Conference. We consider them invaluable and are confident that they will go a long way in illuminating the future course of the library movement in India. The Souvenir is happy to play the role of the messenger.

The Souvenir is also an endeavour to tell our delegate-guests something about Indore which has the unique distinction of playing host to the All India Library Conference twice within a period of two decades. The IX All India Library Conference held here in 1951, under the auspices of the Indore General Library, acted as a powerful catalyst and left a deep impact on the library movement in Malwa in general and Indore in particular. The Souvenir carries special articles on the public and the academic libraries of Indore. We also present brief sketches of the development plans of the University of Indore and the University library. This section of the Souvenir, besides the above, provides fleeting glimpses of the cultural heritage of Malwa and the growth of the Indore city.

And last, but not the least, the Souvenir is our humble attempt to focus attention of the library scientists on some of the current library problems like the problem of the personnel and the language problem in libraries. We trust that these articles contributed by some of the most eminent men in the field will lead to a fruitful dialogue.

The Souvenir is presented as a literary memento of the XVII All India Library Conference—as a token of the goodwill of the University of Indore for the library movement in India.

—Editor

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I should like to express my deep sense of gratitude to the Vice-Chancellor, Shri K. L. Joshi, for the planning of the Souvenir and for his invaluable council in its preparation.

I also gratefully acknowledge the help received from Registrar, Shri G. N. Tandan and the officers of the University in the publication of this Souvenir.

Shri V. S. Moghe and Shri A. L. Wadikar have shouldered the main burden of the organisation of the Conference. Their contribution to the Souvenir is also substantial. I am deeply indebted to both of them. Their colleagues have also worked hard. My thanks to them.

I should like to thank the contributors who have given substance to this publication. I am thankful to Shri Mahendra Trivedi, Public Relations Officer, Indore Municipal Corporation, for his help in many ways.

I should also like to place on record the efficient assistance received from Shri Mahadev Joshi, Manager, Indore University Press, in the technical planning of the Souvenir.

Our thanks are also due to advertisers for their cooperation.

I am grateful to the members of the Souvenir and the Publicity Committee for their labours and for giving me the privilege to edit this Souvenir on their behalf.

—Editor

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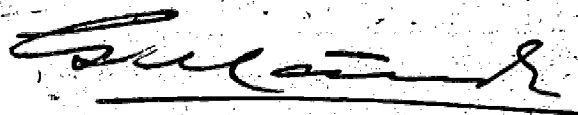
Shri A. L. Wadikar and Shri V. S. Moghe, Local Joint Organising Secretaries acted as *ex-officio* members of all sub-committees.

REGISTRAR  
UNIVERSITY OF INDORE

UNIVERSITY HOUSE  
INDORE—1.

## GREETINGS

It is a matter of great pride for the University of Indore to be the host of the XVII All-India Library Conference and I have great pleasure in presenting a Souvenir on this occasion. I am quite confident that this Library Conference will be very helpful in educating the Library Staff of the various libraries specially in Indore. It will also help in making the public of Indore more library minded so that the libraries are used to the maximum possible extent. I am grateful to all those who have contributed generously towards this Conference.



( G. N. TANDAN )

*Registrar and Secretary  
Reception Committee*

## WELCOME

We, the Local Joint Organising Secretaries of the Reception Committee of the XVII All India Library Conference, extend a hearty welcome to our colleagues and delegates from all over India and to the representatives of foreign Cultural Institutions and Embassies attending this Conference.

Indore had been the venue of the IX All India Library Conference in 1951, when it was the Summer Capital of the erstwhile State of Madhya Bharat. Now the All India Library Conference is being held a second time in Indore, but it is for the first time in the new State of Madhya Pradesh at the invitation of the newly established University of Indore.

The 1951 Conference brought an awakening in the field of Library movement in this part of the country. For the first time the people realized that there was something much more in the Library Organisation and service than mere clerical work of keeping the books. The authorities in the Government and of the Educational institutions became aware that there was need to appoint trained librarians to manage the libraries. The State Government have now made it compulsory to appoint trained librarians in most of the Government educational institutions and departmental libraries. Three Universities in the State have library training courses. Due credit for this must go to the 1951 Conference.

The present conference is taking place in a vastly changed situation. The educational scene has undergone a great change. Besides the increase in the number of schools and colleges, many technical and scientific institutions have come up. The number of Universities in the State has also gone up. There are now nine Universities in the State. The libraries have naturally to keep pace with this fast development in the educational field. But we find that there is still lack of sufficient library consciousness in the State. We feel that the authorities of educational institutions and the people in general have not yet realised the important role libraries play in building up the nation and what an efficient library service can do in promoting research and scientific development. The result is that the libraries in the State are still very much backward. Modern library service is almost negligible. The holding of this XVII Library Conference in Indore is, therefore, most opportune. We are sure that the Conference will have its impact and bring out the much desired library consciousness among the authorities as well as the people in general and put fresh blood and vigour in the Library Movement in the State.

In the end, we wish to express our deep sense of gratitude to all those who have helped us, directly or indirectly, in the organisation of the Conference. We are greatly indebted to the Vice Chancellor and Chairman, Reception Committee, for his inspiration, encouragement and guidance in all respects even to the minutest details, to the Registrar, and member of the various Committees for their assistance and cooperation and to other members of the University staff. For the publication of this Souvenir we are deeply grateful to Dr. Ranvir Saxena for undertaking the arduous job of editing. Without his help the publication of this Souvenir would have been so difficult. We are also thankful to the Souvenir & Publicity Committee for their guidance, to Shri Mahadeo Joshi, University Press Manager for technical help and Shri Visnu Chinchalkar, Artist, for his meaningful cover design, and to the Modern Printery for their whole hearted cooperation in printing this Souvenir in a very short time.

Last but not the least, we wish to place on record our deep appreciation of the staff of the University Library and other librarian-friends who worked with zeal and devotion for the Conference. But for their cooperation we would not have been able to go through the ordeal.

V. S. Moghe

A. L. Wadikar

*Local Joint Organising Secretaries*

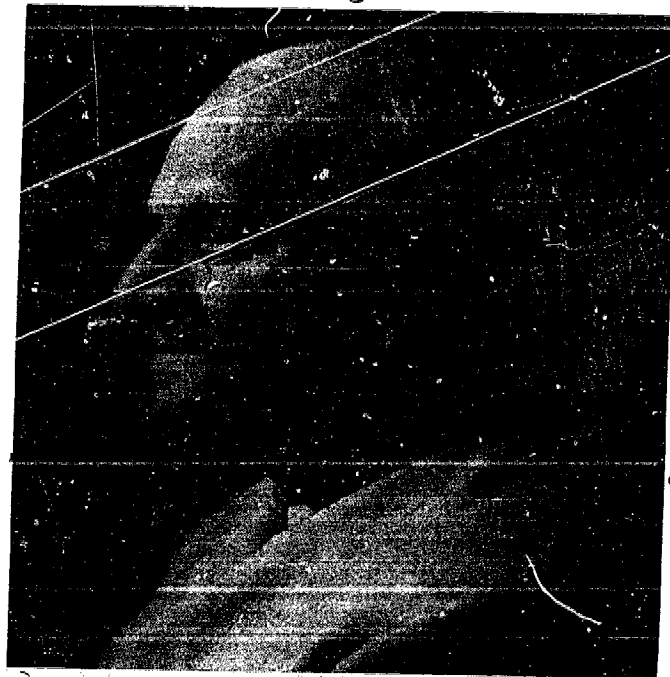
\_\_\_\_\_

**blessings**

\_\_\_\_\_



VICE-PRESIDENT  
INDIA  
NEW-DELHI  
October 25, 1968.



I send my best wishes for the success of the XVII All India  
Library Conference of your University to be held from 27th to 29th  
December'68.

V. V. GIRI



प्रधान मन्त्री सचिवालय,

नई दिल्ली-११

PRIME MINISTER'S SECRETARIAT

NEW DELHI-11

October 24, 1968.



The Prime Minister sends her best wishes for the success of the Seventeenth All India Library Conference being held at Indore in December.



राज्य पाल (मध्यप्रदेश)

RAJ BHAVAN  
BHOPAL-3.  
1st November, 1968.



I am glad to know that the University of Indore is playing host to the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association and that our Union Minister for Education will be presiding over the inaugural session on the 27th December 1968.

Efficiently managed good libraries render great assistance for the proper use of the proliferating knowledge in almost every branch of study. For a University such a library is a vital institution. I have no doubt that the two Seminars to be held in connection with the Conference will be able to make a broad survey of the present problems of library management and also undertake the pioneering work relating to the reading material in Indian Languages.

I have great pleasure in sending my best wishes for the success of the Conference as well as of the Book Exhibition to be organised on the occasion.

K. C. REDDY  
Governor,  
Madhya Pradesh

"Girija",  
30, EDWARD ELLIOT ROAD,  
MYLAPORE,  
MADRAS-4  
October 22, 1968.



I am directed to acknowledge your letter of the 16th October, 1968 to Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, who is indisposed, and to send his good wishes to the All India Library Conference.

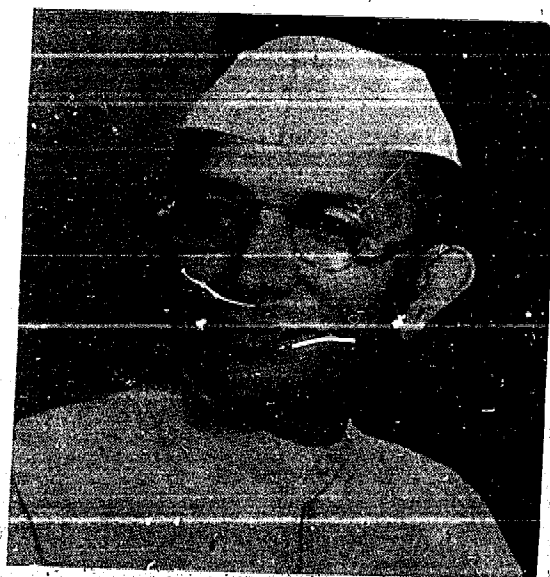
*Personal Secretary to*  
Dr. S. RADHAKRISHNAN

NAOROJI ROAD,  
KILPAUK,  
MADRAS-10

I have stopped sending messages. I have nothing more to say than that I wish the Conference all Success.

C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER  
INDIA  
NEW DELHI  
October 25, 1968.



Good libraries can be a very valuable asset to society if they can provide opportunities to citizens to quench their thirst for knowledge of different legacies of human thought and culture. These are of particular importance to Universities where students can equip their minds with the necessary knowledge of different sciences and learnings and thus widen their intellectual horizon.

I am therefore glad that the XVII All India Library Conference is being held under the auspices of the Indore University in December, and I wish it every success.

MORARJI DESAI

गृह मन्त्री, भारत  
HOME MINISTER  
INDIA  
NEW DELHI  
October 31, 1968.

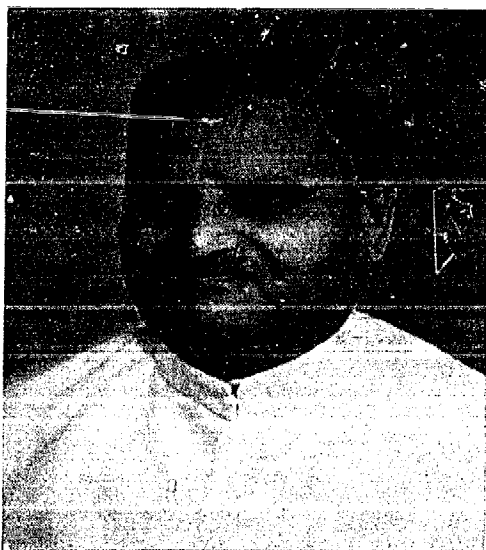


I am happy to learn that the University of Indore is playing host to the XVII All India Library Conference to be held at Indore from 27th December, 1968. I hope that besides the technical deliberations of the profession, the Conference would also devote itself to devising ways and means of inculcating the library habit among the people which alone can help towards their more basic education and in widening the horizon of their knowledge.

My good wishes.

Y. B. CHAVAN

**MINISTER FOR  
LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION,  
GOVT. OF INDIA,  
NEW DELHI.  
6th November, 1968**



I am glad to know that the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association is being held in Indore in December. Libraries have an important role to play in the dissemination of knowledge and in the drive for mass literacy in our country. The Indian Library Association is rendering yeoman service by not only creating effective library consciousness but also making library services available to more and more people. It is gratifying that one of the seminars of the Conference will pay attention to "reading material in Indian Languages". As we are progressively switching over to our own languages in the educational and other fields, it is important that we should have well-equipped libraries consisting of books and publications in the different Indian languages, which could be fully utilised by the masses. I am sure that the Conference will make practical and useful suggestions for making mass education movement a success in this country.

I send my best wishes for the success of the Conference.

**J. L. HATHI**



MINISTER OF LAW  
AND SOCIAL WELFARE;  
INDIA,  
2, HASTINGS ROAD,  
NEW DELHI-11  
October 29, 1968

Science and Technology are daily opening up new vistas of knowledge. There is a steady stream of books, periodicals and publications on every branch of knowledge, flowing from numerous research centres in different parts of the world. The growing generations should be able to place their hands on this vast fund of information within the shortest time if talent and opportunity are not to be wasted. A well organised library, full of latest works and journals systematically arranged and kept up by a trained librarian, is therefore of the utmost importance in any institution for advanced learning. The Indian Library Association has done commendable service to the Library movement in this country. There is, or ought to be, no dearth of Library Personnel. But for reading material we may have to depend on foreign countries also for quite some time. I am sure that the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association to be held in Indore from 27th to 29th December under the auspices of the University of Indore will prove to be a landmark in the history of the Library movement in India.

On this important occasion, I send my greetings to the participants from all parts of the country and best wishes for the success of the Conference,

P. GOVINDA MENON

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT & SHIPPING  
INDIA  
15th November, 1968



I am very happy to learn that the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association is being held in Indore from 27th December 1968, hosted by the University of Indore. With the strides the country has made in the field of education—both of children and adults—there is an increasing need for more and more libraries, adequately stocked with good and useful books, catering to diverse needs and tastes. Two of the many problems needing attention may perhaps be mentioned. One is the necessity of making available books for children which properly orient and propagate our rich heritage along with ideas of a modern democracy to prepare them for responsible citizenship. The other is the question of preparing books for adult neoliterates in simple style on subjects of immediate practical utility in all the regional languages. I do hope the Conference will consider some aspects of these problems and will be able to evolve some pragmatic courses of action. I wish the conference all success.

V. K. R. V. RAO

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**EDUCATION MINISTER,  
INDIA,  
NEW DELHI.  
5, November, 1968**

**he Indian Library Association is being  
gation of knowledge and in our country  
mber of educated people the thirst for  
and well-equipped libraries is essential.  
cause of libraries in the country. I send**

**T. SEN**

MINISTER  
INFORMATION & BROADCASTING  
INDIA  
October 28, 1968



With the rapid growth of literacy in the country, the hunger for books and reading material is going up everyday. A net work of libraries can go a long way to meet this demand. I am glad to know that the University of Indore will be playing host to the XVII Conference of All India Library Association to be held in Indore from December 27 to 29.

I hope the Conference will give stimulus to library workers all over the country in redoubling their efforts for the promotion of a healthy library movement in the country.

K. K. SHAH



MINISTER FOR  
HEALTH, FAMILY PLANNING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT,  
INDIA,  
NIRMAN BHAVAN,  
NEW DELHI.  
26, October, 1968

I am happy to learn that the University of Indore is playing host to the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association and is bringing out a souvenir on the occasion.

While wishing the conference all success I would very much appreciate if the souvenir, which would contain information about various aspects of the life in Indore, could also give some idea to the delegates about one of Indore's basic concerns, viz., the population problem.

In this connection, it would be of interest to the Librarians to note that while the educational facilities in the country improved 300% since 1951 today there are still 63 million children out of schools. The question is, therefore, that of providing library facilities not only for those in schools but also outside the schools. I believe that in case we have to make meaning out of our educational efforts, including that of provision of libraries, the educationists must also turn their attention to the solution of the problem of the growth of our numbers.

I wish the conference and the souvenir all success.

S. N. SINHA



JAIVILAS PALACE,  
GWAJIOR.

I think it is a singular opportunity for the University of Indore to play host to the 17th All India Library Conference from 27th to 30th December, 1968. For indeed the new University of Indore which has set out its plans for development and growth will get inspiration from this Conference regarding organization of University Library and its development. Besides, the city of Indore has certain public libraries which need re-organization. I am sure that the Conference will inspire the organizers of the libraries to develop them into useful services to the public.

For the University of Indore the University Library is the very heart of its development. I was glad to learn that the President is laying the Foundation Stone of the University Library on 10th February, 1969. This Conference, therefore, augurs well for the development of the University of Indore.

There are a number of problems before the professional librarians in regard to programmes of library development, just as there are problems for the State and Central Governments. The public library programme is related to programmes of adult education, social service and awareness of civic sense. These are important goals of development and ideals for which a conference of this nature should fight. The guidance that will be given by the Conference to all of us will, therefore, be most useful.

I wish the Conference all success.

VIJAYA RAJE SCINDIA



I am glad to learn that the University of All-India Library Conference from the 27th to 30th for Indore to have this Conference inaugurated by Honourable Shri K. C. Reddy, Governor of Madras presided over by the Union Education Minister Dr.

The University of Indore is now taking shape. The laying of the foundation stone of the University Library effect, will be the laying of the foundation stone in the very heart of a University and I am glad to see this vital aspect of education. I am sure the ideas of the Conference which will help our University in new generations.

I wish the Conference all success.



is playing host to the 17th  
1968. It will be a privilege  
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and the President of India will  
th February 1969, which, in  
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e from the All-India Library  
p an inspiring library for

**USHA DEVI**

*Maheerani Usha Devi of Indore*





GRANTS COMMISSION  
Mah Zafar Marg  
19, 1968

am delighted to know that the  
Education, will be done by o  
nd inspiring occasion I have m

**LALBAGH PALACE,  
INDORE, M. P.  
December 10th, 1968**

**I am very glad that the Conference  
of the All India Library Association is  
being held this year at Indore and I  
wish the Conferences all success.**

**TUKOJI RAO HOLKAR**

**tion of the Library Conference, and of the  
tion Minister Dr. Triguna Sen. On this  
ire in sending my best wishes and greetings.**

**D. S. KOTHARI**



RAJ BHAVAN, PUNJAB,  
CHANDIGARH.  
19, November, 1968

I am happy to learn that the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association is being held in Indore from the 27th to 29th, December, 1968.

It is through books alone that the accumulated wisdom of ages is transmitted to succeeding generations and thus books are one of the most important vehicles of the march of civilization and culture.

In ancient India we had great centres of learning, like Nalanda and Taxila, equipped with big libraries. Even now some of our great libraries possess a large and fine collection of books, but by and large the library facilities in this country are most inadequate. With the spread of literacy and education, the demand for books from people would also increase. In highly developed countries, libraries play an important role in extending the frontiers of knowledge as well as in spreading knowledge among the masses.

The Indian Library Association has been doing useful service in promoting the cause of and devising the methods for better management of libraries in this country since 1933. I am confident that academicians and librarians meeting on this occasion will strive to find suitable ways and means for further promoting and strengthening the cause of library movement in this country.

I send my best wishes on this occasion,

D. C. PAVATE  
*Governor of Punjab*

शिक्षा राज्य मंत्री,  
भारत सरकार,  
नई दिल्ली  
२०-११-६८



अखिल भारतीय पुस्तकालय परिषद के १७ वें सम्मेलन के अवसर पर परिषद के तथा उसमें भाग लेने वाले भारत के विभिन्न भागों से आये हुए सज्जनों को मैं अपनी शुभकामनायें भेजता हूँ। देश में पुस्तकालयों के विकास तथा प्रसार में पुस्तकालय परिषद सदृश संस्थाओं ने बड़ा काम किया है। परिषद के इस सम्मेलन की सफलता के लिए मेरी शुभकामनायें स्वीकार कीजिये।

भागवत प्रसाद आज़ाद

MINISTER FOR WORKS  
HOUSING & SUPPLY,  
INDIA  
NEW DELHI  
30th October, 1968.

I am happy to learn that the University of Indore is playing host to the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association. Library is the very heart of any educational institution. In fact, the library movement has to spread all over the country and should cater to all age groups. For this purpose, it is necessary that you have adequate number of well-stocked libraries and a well-trained band of library personnel. In a country where so many languages with a very rich heritage, are in vogue, the training and equipment for these personnel has to be of a varied nature, so that proper classification may be done. With modern methods of preservation and storage, new systems of indexing and referencing, their adoption to our conditions requires careful consideration. All this would be possible if those in the field bring their experience and expertise on to a common forum and evolve suitable and acceptable methods.

It is also a matter to be proud of that the Governor of Madhya Pradesh who was for a long time associated with this Ministry and has been a distinguished son of the soil, is inaugurating this Conference, and that the Union Education Minister is presiding over the inaugural Session. In view of their rich and varied experience, both these persons will be able to give a correct lead in the matter of the Library movement.

The Indian Library Association will, I am sure, move from strength to strength and be of service to the cause of University education and library service.

I wish the Conference all success.

JAGANATH RAO

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MINISTER OF STATE,  
MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES & METALS,  
INDIA, NEW DELHI.  
November 12, 1968.

I am glad to know that the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association is going to be held some time in the last week of December, 1968 at Indore, and you propose to bring out a Souvenir on this occasion. I am further pleased to note that this Association is doing very useful work in promoting the cause of Library Movement and raising of academic standards. I am sure that besides highlighting the activities of the Library Association, the Souvenir will contain articles etc. of interest to all. I wish the Conference all success.

P. C. SETHI



MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION & POWER  
INDIA,  
NEW DELHI  
11th November, 1968.

It gives me great pleasure to learn that the Seventeenth All India Library Conference is being held at Indore in December this year.

Library movement in India is a growing organisation. With the advancement of literacy, education and science, the need for adequately improved and up-to-date libraries especially in Universities is of vital importance. I am sure the XVII All India Library Conference will stress the need to further expand the activities of the existing libraries and the setting up of new ones to meet the increasing demand of the educated people and the public in general.

I am happy that the University of Indore is bringing out a Souvenir and organising a Book Exhibition to mark the occasion.

I wish the Conference all success.

K. L. RAO



MINISTER OF STATE FOR EDUCATION  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
NEW DELHI  
October 26, 1968

I am happy to learn that the XVII All India Library Conference is being held this year at Indore. Libraries play a very important role in education and I must congratulate the Indian Library Association for the good work that it is doing to serve the cause of library development in India.

I also congratulate the University of Indore which is playing host to the Conference.

I wish the Conference every success.

SHER SINGH

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN  
PLANNING COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI  
November 1, 1968

I was very glad to hear that the forthcoming Conference of the Indian Library Association is to be held in Indore. Libraries have a central role in all educational institutions particularly those concerned with collegiate and post-graduate training. I feel sure that the holding of the Conference will prove particularly beneficial for the advancement of libraries in Indore and in Madhya Pradesh.

D. R. GADGIL

"RACHNA"  
*University Road,*  
HYDERABAD—7.  
November 5, 1968

I am happy to learn that the University of Indore is hosting the 17th conference of the Indian Library Association to be held in Indore from 27th to 29th December, 1968. It is also a pleasure to learn that the Conference will be inaugurated by the Governor of Madhya Pradesh and that the inaugural session will be presided over by Dr. Triguna Sen, Union Education Minister.

The Library movement in India which has development unevenly in the country, comprehends within its scope the vital sector of University Libraries. The basic frame work of this sector is confronted with the problem of adjusting to the inevitable change that is already in train in regard to the media of higher education. It would be a tragedy if the library habit among College and University students were to weaken before the necessary adjustments can be made and these are bound to take time in the best of circumstances. The process will be comparable to a heart transplant, and I can only hope that the Conference will furnish guide lines of success in this major operation.

C. D. DESHMUKH  
*formerly Chairman, University  
Grants Commission &  
Vice-chancellor, University of Delhi*

BHARATIYA VIDYA BHAVAN,  
Chowpatty Road,  
BOMBAY-7  
October 31, 1968

I am glad to note that the XVII All India Library Conference is to be held from 27th to 29th December at Indore.

Our libraries can be the best centres for cultural activities. They can make a unique contribution to the all-sided development of the nation. However, much will depend upon the personnel recruited for the purpose. Only sincere, devoted and trained workers, having clear conception of the aims of the Libraries and Library activities, will be able to do full justice to their jobs. I am, therefore, happy to learn that the Indore Conference will discuss this fundamental issue of Library personnel.

I wish the Conference a great success.

K. M. MUNSHI

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SMT. NATHIBAI DAMODAR THACKERSEY,  
WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY,  
QUEEN'S ROAD,  
BOMBAY - 1  
25, November, 1968

I am glad to learn that the All India Library Association is holding its 17th Conference at Indore from December 27 to December 29, 1968 and Indore University is playing host to the Conference.

I wish the conference all success and hope that the Library Movement will gain momentum by holding annual Conference of the Association in the different parts of the country. The University Community is fortunate in having liberal assistance from the University Grants Commission for providing good library facilities to students and faculty members. The Public Library Movement likewise should also receive attention of the Central Government and the State Government as this is one of the very important aspects of public service.

The All India Library Association should focus attention on this very important branch of library service and strive to achieve greater success in this matter, during the Fourth Plan Period.

PREMLILA V. THACKERSEY  
VICE-CHANCELLOR

*Documentation Research and  
Training Centre  
BANGALORE—3*

As one who attended the first All India Library Conference held in Calcutta in 1933, who took part in drafting the first constitution of the Indian Library Association, and who became its first life-member, I am glad that the Seventeenth All India Library Conference is being held at Indore in 1968. I had attended the Ninth Conference in Indore in 1951. I entered the Library profession on 4 January 1924. Looking back over a stretch of forty-five years, I am impressed by India's progress in Library matters during this period.

After twenty years of hard work, the Madras Library Association succeeded in putting its Public Libraries Act on statute book in 1948. Although Library Bills were introduced into our Legislature much earlier, we had to wait for the realisation of our wish till we got our Independence.

Today four of the southern States have Library Acts. The Government of Kerala accepted my draft Bill ten years ago and it would have been the fifth State in South India to have a Library Act but for the frequent political changes in that State. The Chief Ministers of five other states have also been furnished with Library Bills. Now that the ice is broken in the matter of library legislation, it is for the library associations in the other States to get their respective Library Acts.

Even in the States without library legislation, something is being done to provide free book service for all. It only needs to be systematised and made self-dependent with the assurance of a statute.

Forty years ago, the Indian School of Thought put library science into the Spiral of Scientific Method by the formulation of the Five Laws of Library Science. This was the first successful attempt to do so. These Laws are producing a great influence on library thought, library science research, and on library science teaching all the world over. The Laws have been adding to the efficiency of library service.

During the same period, India has contributed the techniques of Facet Analysis and Chain Procedure, now used in several countries. India has evolved a dynamic theory of classification and made Colon Classification truly analytico-synthetic and freely-faceted. It has the inner mechanism to implement the future findings of the theory to keep pace with the happenings in the ever-turbulent Universe of Subject. The present day documentation practice is bringing into surface both its versatility and its capacity to make electron-doc-finder yield the best of results.

During this period, the number of full-time one-year post-graduate schools of library science has increased from 1 to 25. The newly rising generation of librarians shows great enthusiasm and keenness in intensifying library service and for that purpose to do research in library science. Thanks to the statesmanship of Professor P. C. Mahalanobis. The Documentation Research and Training Centre was established in Bangalore in 1962 by the Indian Statistical Institute to train the most promising librarians in the methods of research and to give advanced training to documentatists. During the last six years, it has produced 300 research papers valued and respected by the leaders of the profession in the world.

I have every hope that the library personality of India will march forth triumphantly in the future years as and when the new generation takes charge of its development.

With best wishes to the Conference

Dr. S. R. RANGANATHAN

VICE-CHANCELLOR,

UNIVERSITY OF POONA,  
GANESHKHIND,  
POONA - 7.

22, November, 1968

I was glad to learn that the University of Indore is to play host to the XVII Conference of the Indian Library Association to be held in Indore from 27th to 29th December, 1968, and that you have decided to bring out a Souvenir on the occasion. Libraries should, in general, be dynamic and book-clubs should be initiated, so that students can be better attracted. With this object they should be well-equipped as it is the primary need in education at all stages. I am sure that the deliberations at your conference will prove very fruitful. I wish the Conference all success.

H. V. PATASKAR

VICE-CHANCELLOR

BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY,  
VARANASI-5.

November 9, 1968

The importance of libraries can be visualised easily by any educated person. Libraries are the centres of culture, the centres of education and the places where leisure can be spent most profitably. Any nation which aspires towards progress must have adequate library system at all levels—public libraries, academic libraries, research libraries and specialist libraries. In any cultural and educational upsurge in the country, libraries are bound to play a pivotal role. To think of education without libraries is to have a ship without its rudder.

In India some progress has been made in improving the condition of college and University libraries. U. G. C. must be congratulated for that. Still our libraries stand no comparison with the university and college libraries in the advanced countries. Much has yet to be done. We have hardly done anything to establish public libraries except in a few states like Madras, Andhra Pradesh and Mysore. We have hopes, however, that the situation will improve. It is certain that more and better libraries will be opened in this country in the coming decades.

To run various types of libraries, we need able and devoted librarians. Library profession in India has developed at a rapid pace during the last 20 years. Training of librarian is now imparted in two dozen universities. But still library profession is not attracting men of talent who could ably organize and administer our libraries. Librarianship as a profession has yet to be recognized and respected by all.

Here the Indian Library Association, like any other professional association, has to play an important role to give meaning and direction to the efforts of librarians working in different libraries and to educate people about the importance of libraries.

I wish the 17th All India Library Conference all success.

A. C. JOSHI

VICE-CHANCELLOR

OSMANIA UNIVERSITY,  
HYDRABAD - 7

18, October, 1968.

I am glad to learn that the University of Indore is to play host to the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association and it is also proposed to organise two Seminars on the occasion. The University has to be congratulated on undertaking this responsibility and I express also the hope that the Conference and the Seminars will be of great service to the cause of University Education in the country.

D. S. REDDI

VICE-CHANCELLOR,

UNIVERSITY OF UDAIPUR,  
UDAIPUR,

22, October, 1968

In recognition of the fact that library is the heart of a University, many universities (including mine) have made their library building the focal point of the campus development. But these days both planners and educators are faced with two difficult problems. Owing to the explosion of knowledge, there has been a phenomenal increase in the weekly output of new publications and, as some one cynically observed, the number of writers now threatens to outstrip the number of readers. Whatever the capacity the planners provide to house the books in a library, it soon falls short of the grown and ever-growing needs. Educators, too, find that, paradoxically enough, a great library tends to lessen the reading habit. When books were few, we made the most of what were available and mastered them by reading and re-reading. When they become many and easily accessible, we put off reading them, precariously secure in our minds that we can read at any convenient time. This explains how a great library is the enemy of memory-cultivation, just precisely as a typewriter is the enemy of good hand-writing. Again, in a big library, students get befogged and confused by the immense mass of reading material that surrounds them. It is conceded that, as Bacon says,—

“Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested. That is, some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read but not cursorily; and some few to be read wholly, and with diligence and attention.”

Yes, but who is to classify the books into these categories? Librarians have, therefore, to perform an additional, special function. They cannot content themselves with getting and classifying and issuing books to intending readers. They must now be in a position to advise them as to what material they should read and what reference books they should consult. Naturally their qualifications must rank equal to, if not higher than, those for a professor.

While opening a library a hundred years ago, some one is reported to have observed that ‘a great library contains the diary of the human race’. The delegates to the Conference have doubtless the charge of this diary. May their deliberations reveal how best to unlock the treasures of human experience to firmly secure the future of the race.

G. S. MAHAJANI

VICE-CHANCELLOR

UNIVERSITY OF SAUGAR,  
SAUGAR, M. P.  
Oct. 25, 1968.

I am happy to learn that the University of Indore is going to organise the XVII All India Library Conference and that it is proposed to bring out a souvenir on the occasion. I appreciate greatly this enterprize of the University of Indore and wish it success.

M. P. SHARMA

VICE-CHANCELLOR,

JIWAJI UNIVERSITY,  
GWALIOR.  
25th November, 1968.

I am happy to learn that the university of Indore has invited the All-India Library Conference for its current session to Indore. This underlines how deeply the Universities are involved in the growth of the Library movement.

The Library, as we know, is or should be the centre of the University Campus—the fountain-head from which flows the search for new knowledge and the passion for academic excellence. If it is to fulfill these objectives the Universities will have constantly to think of new services and fresh resources to implement them in consultation with the Library Conference. I am confident the present session will advance this co-ordination a step further in the interest of both.

I wish the Conference every success.

S. S. BHANDARKAR

VICE-CHANCELLOR

RAVISHANKAR UNIVERSITY  
RAIPUR, M. P.  
30th Oct., 1968.

Cardinal Newman said university is a collection of books. And although different conceptions of a university have been expressed by other authorities, the central fact remains that a good library and efficient library service are essential for a university. A library is the very backbone of the university and even for mass education the need for a net work of libraries can not be overemphasized. We in Madhya Pradesh feel happy, therefore, that the Indian Library Association is holding its next session at Indore under the auspices of the Indore University and that a Souvenir will be brought out on the occasion. Under the dynamic and able guidance of Dr. Joshi, the Vice-Chancellor of the Indore University, the session will no doubt be a great success and give a fillip to the library movement in Madhya Pradesh.

B. L. PANDEY

VICE-CHANCELLOR

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU KRISHI VISHWA VIDYALAYA  
JABALPUR, MADHYA PRADESH,  
JABALPUR,  
October 26, 1968.

I am happy to learn that the 11th Conference of the Indian Library Association is being held at the University of Indore from 27th to 29th December 1968. It is an event of great significance for the State of Madhya Pradesh and particularly, for the city of Indore, in view of the fact that the Conference is being held at Indore for the 2nd time within a period of less than two decades.

The establishment of a good library is of prime importance for proper development of any educational Institution/Organisation, and particularly so for a University. At present our library facilities are not so well developed as these should be. The Indian Library Association has an important role to play in making up this deficiency. I have every hope that the deliberations of the Conference will lead to some positive steps in this direction.

I wish the Conference all success.

L. S. NEGI

VICE-CHANCELLOR

VIKRAM UNIVERSITY,  
UJJAIN.  
November 1, 1968.

I feel happy to learn that the University of Indore is organising the XVII All India Library Conference from 27th to 29th December 1968. The Libraries are the nerve centres of educational institutions. They are the main feeders to the organism which vibrates the pulses of respective faculties. To build up a sound and well equipped library is to arrange for the healthy growth of university education in its proper perspective. I feel happy that the University of Indore under your experienced stewardship has taken up this great task, the fulfilling of which will mean creating an atmosphere of proper study and exciting research work. We have almost nothing to quench intellectual appetite of our young generation. The wail of indiscipline and other chaotic conditions are due to the meagre supply of proper material for mentally and spiritually equipping the youth of this country. The seminar arranged for the purpose may greatly contribute in throwing light on the most exacting problems of our day. I send my hearty-felicitations for your success and wish to participate in the thoughtful deliberations of this Conference. I hope the outcome of this Conference would help us in formulating wholesome principles for the reorientation of our cultural heritage in tune with the glorious achievements of the modern world.

S. M. SINGH 'SUMAN'

'CHAMPAK'  
OLD PALASIA, INDORE.  
22 November, 1968.

It seems to me a good augury for the future of teaching and learning in the University that the first ever All-India Conference to be held under its auspices should be that of the Indian Library Association. I congratulate the Vice-Chancellor on getting the Association to meet here this year; and I wish all success to its deliberations.

K. S. KAMATH  
*Former Vice-Chancellor  
University of Indore*

PRESIDENT

ANDHRA MAHILA SABHA,  
UNIVERSITY ROAD, HYDRABAD-7  
23rd November, 1968.

For want of time and very heavy commitments hanging on, I am unable to send you a long message, but I wish to send my very good wishes for the success of your 17th All India Library Conference.

I am the President of the Andhra Pradesh Library Association elected only last year. The library movement is a very old one and this has done very good work in every part of India, particularly in Andhra Pradesh. This has paved the way for Adult Education and has given a great fillip to the social education movement in this part of the country. There are more than a thousand small libraries in the rural areas. They are still active inspite of financial difficulties, and because of their sustained enthusiasm and devoted work they are able to carry on very good work particularly among the rural illiterate masses. But the Library Legislation has crippled it in more than one way and it has fettered the smooth working of these libraries, as it had taken away the initiative from the devoted workers and brought a lot of official elements. Nor are the grants given by Government adequate, as they do not meet even the bare minimum needs. One big question is the buildings for the Libraries. Formerly philanthropic people used to donate, but now that has gone. Whatever may be the discouraging circumstances, I am sure libraries will continue to play a very important role, particularly to strengthen the base of Adult Literature, Continuing Education and Social Education.

I hope and pray that Library Conference in your State will give very useful guide lines not only for the work in the State but also for work of this kind in other States of India as well.

DURGABAI DESHMUKH

SANYOGITAGANJ,  
INDORE, M. P.  
October 25, 1968.

I am happy to learn that the University of Indore has thought it fit to host the XVII All India Library Conference in December next.

Indore is the chief educational and industrial town in Madhya Pradesh and I am proud that All India Library Conference is being held here for the second time in its history.

Much needs to be done in the field of Library movement in our country, particularly in view of our very limited resources. We should, therefore, strive to best exploit and utilise every book available.

I hope the forthcoming Conference will not only give a careful thought to this aspect but will also inspire educational and other public libraries towards a better and more coordinated working.

I wish the Conference all success. I am confident that the organisational effort of the University of Indore will be rewarding.

R. C. JALL

*Chief Librarian*

UNITED STATES INFORMATION SERVICE  
BOMBAY—1  
November 26, 1968

It is a brilliant beginning for the Indian Library Association to have instituted the celebration of a National Library Week this year. No other activity appears to me to be more important than the nation-wide celebration of the National Library Week not by college, university, public and school librarians alone but by government, social, educational, business, cultural and political leaders of the nation with the active cooperation of the radio, newspapers, magazines and other media of publicity. Only such an effort on a large scale can give the required impetus to reading as a means to continuing education of the people towards national development.

The theme of the National Library Week program of the United States for this year was "BE ALL YOU CAN BE-READ". The program focussed on total community access to reading for information and personal renewal. It is reported that at least 45 national magazines with an estimated circulation in excess of 130 million published NLW themes chiefly in March, April and May issues. There were editorial features, major public service ads, column mentions, and several magazines published more than one article. An estimated \$ 1 million worth of local and network radio and TV time was given to the programs produced by NLW headquarters.

I am confident that both the seminars planned will discuss this project thoroughly and come out with specific proposals to make the National Library Week next year a grand success.

K. P. GANAPATHY

THE BRITISH COUNCIL  
NEW DELHI  
27th November, 1968

May I wish the Conference every success and hope that it will lead to further improvements in Librarianship in India.

G. A. EVANS  
*Chief Librarian  
for Representative, India*

CHAIRMAN

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION  
*Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Marg*  
BOMBAY—1

23rd November, 1968

I am happy to learn that the Indore University will hold the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association from the 27th to 29th December 1968, and that leading librarians and academicians of the country will participate. I am sure the Conference will help to strengthen the library movement in India and I wish it all success.

VIKRAM A. SARABHAI

*Mahamahopadhyaya,  
Sahitya Vachaspati*  
DATTO VAMAN POTDAR

498, SHANIWAR PETH  
POONA-2.  
23 November, 1968.

I am glad that the 17th All India Library Conference will be held at Indore under the kind auspices of your University. I need not remind the public of an oft-quoted statement that the "Library is an University". In this modern age of printing machines, news-papers, periodicals and books, no progress in learning and no advancement of the human society is possible without Libraries. Teachers there are but they are more like guides to direct you to literature to be selected for intensive study. Without such guidance one is likely to lose his way and chart his path in the ocean of books. Hence, the necessity of qualified librarians and library service. Books are our best friends. They provide us with intellectual nourishment. Libraries properly equipped are our new temples where we have to dedicate ourselves to study, to gather knowledge as to enrich our mind and elevate it.

I wish that by the help of libraries we will be able to introduce light and banish darkness, ignorance and prejudice. Books should be our life companions. Let us therefore recognise the importance of libraries as Holy places to turn us into the citizens of the world.

I hope every success to the Conference.

DATTO VAMAN POTDAR

THE REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
BRITISH COUNCIL FOR WESTERN  
AND CENTRAL INDIA,  
BOMBAY

Through its own library work in India, the British Council is very well aware of the important role of the professional Librarian in educational and indeed national development. We believe firmly in the library as the key to the expansion of knowledge and of understanding, and therefore I have great pleasure in sending warmest greetings and best wishes for the success of the Conference.

D. S. COOMBS

43, ALAPURA,  
INDORE

3rd December, 1968.

I am happy to learn that University of Indore is to act as host to the forthcoming XVII All India Library Conference to be held at Indore, and that you propose to bring out a Souvenir on the occasion. I cordially wish success to the Conference, and to the Souvenir, which I am sure will be deserving to the occasion.

I may make a suggestion. At present only towns and cities have libraries. Villages are practically ignored. The literacy education, which is sometimes given in villages by Social Workers, is thus wasted. I may propose that the University may draw up and implement a scheme to remove this want. Boxes containing 200 to 250 books, fit for reading in villages, may be prepared and may be sent from village to village. The village Sar-Panch or any other reliable worker may be entrusted to distribute the books, and to see to their return in time. Time may be prescribed, for which the box is to remain in the village. When the prescribed time is over the box may be sent to the next village, as listed by you. One district may be the area to be thus served, and the cooperation of the Collector may be obtained.

V. S. SARWATE

8, ASHOK ROAD,  
NEW DELHI.

In order to be called educated, a man must be able to appreciate the achievements of the human race in government, in industry, in literature, art and social living and also move with ease in the world of abstract ideas, both in the fields of the natural sciences and the humanities. In the context of modern developments, the qualities that are most important for the progress and prosperity of individuals and nations are the quickening of the social conscience and a passion for social justice so that people may demand for others the good things they want for themselves. In fact, the modern world cannot survive without a concerted attempt to raise the intellectual and cultural standards for everybody, develop a love for work which takes pride and delight in doing the best of which one is capable, foster appreciation of one's own and other national cultures and most important of all, a spirit of understanding and compassion for all human beings and their effort to improve human conditions throughout the world.

HUMAYUN KABIR

THE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

7, Ridgmount Street, Store Street,  
LONDON, W. C.—1  
29th November. 1968.

It is with great interest that I learn that the University of Indore is acting as host to the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association. I have noted the important and fundamental themes of the Conference, and most sincerely hope that the discussions will be lively and fruitful.

I am sure that the University will gain by giving hospitality to the senior librarians of India, and hope that, in years to come, the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association will become a landmark in the history of the Association.

On behalf of the President and members of this Association.

H. D. BARRY  
*Secretary.*

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THE BRITISH MUSEUM  
LONDON, W. C. 1.  
5th December, 1968.

Since its foundation in 1753 the British Museum Collections have included Indian manuscripts. These have been added to from time to time, among the more important accessions having been those acquired from the collection of N. B. Haller in 1795; William Erskine (1773-1852) and H. G. Jacobi (1850-1937). These collections also benefitted from the expedition to Central Asia by Sir Aurel Stein (1862-1943) sponsored by the Museum and the Government of India.

Since the development of Indian printing the Museum has also acquired books printed in all the languages of India. A series of catalogues of manuscripts and printed books were prepared by scholars at the Museum, and this was encouraged by the formation of a separate Department of Oriental Printed Books and Manuscripts in 1891. In the Indian field, the most extensive work was done by J. F. Blumhardt, from the 1880's onwards, Cecil Bendall (1856-1906), a Sanskritist who specialized in northern Buddhist studies, and by Lionel Barnett (1871-1960), who contributed so much to Indian scholarship, especially in the bibliographical field.

The British Museum continues to take an active interest in Indian studies by adding to its acquisitions of Indian materials, and by providing facilities not only to those who can visit London, but also by its enquiry and photographic services, which are frequently of help to Indian scholars and librarians. It is with this thought that we send fraternal greetings to the University of Indore and through them to the delegates of the Seventeenth All-India Library Conference.

BASIL GRAY  
*Acting Director*

Dr. B. D. NAG CHAUDHURI,  
Member

PLANNING COMMISSION  
NEW DELHI  
December 6, 1968

I am happy that the University of Indore is holding the XVII All India Library Conference from 27th to 29th December, 1968 and organising two seminars on "Library Personnel in India" and "Reading Material in Indian Languages".

The vast mass of information and knowledge accumulated by human endeavour, particularly during the last one hundred years has created an enormous challenge in storing, cataloguing, digesting and making available this information to the scholar and to the students, to the farmer and the engineer, to the manager and the worker in the form that is most useful to them. Libraries, therefore are not only repositories of information in the form of books and journals but also digeters and purveyors of information needed by a large variety of people and for a large variety of needs. To the extent that the libraries of to-day can promote the fullest use of the knowledge that is in their storehouse, they will serve the community.

I hope that this conference will indicate the directions and methods through which our libraries can play a more significant role in increasing the use of informtion at their disposal and using their limited resources for collecting the material for their library more selectively and hence more purposefully.

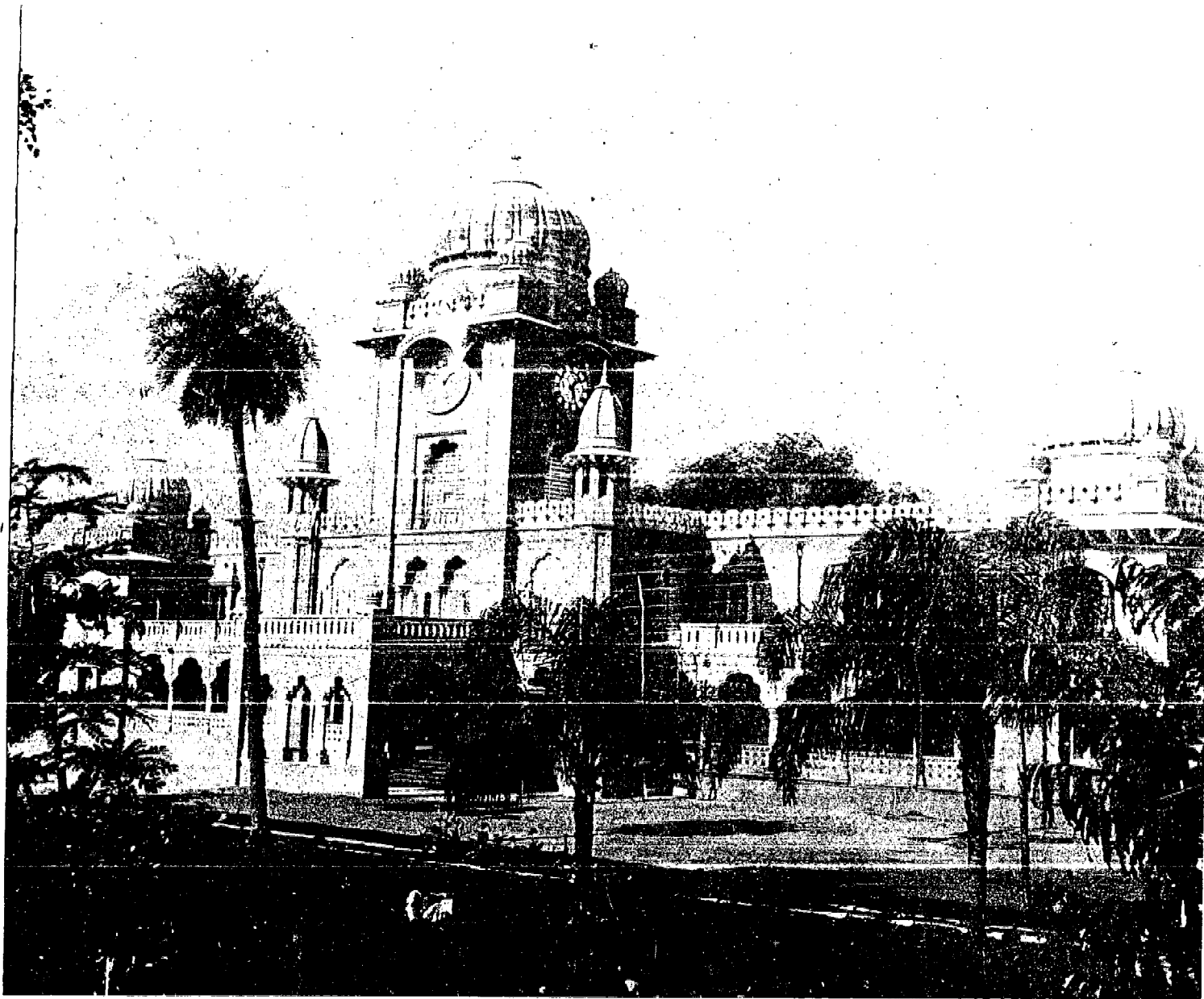
B. D. NAG CHAUDHURI

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UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND  
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION  
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'  
EDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE  
PLACE de FONTENOY,  
PARIS-7 e  
9 December 1968

Best wishes for the success of the 17th Conference of the Indian Library Association, and for the two Seminars on Library Personnel in India and on Reading Material in Indian Languages. I am sure that these activities will have a very positive effect on Library development in India.

E. N. PETERSEN  
Chief,  
Unesco Library and Documentation Service.



GANDHI HALL

~~~~~  
the hosts  
~~~~~



## INTRODUCING MADHYA PRADESH

BY

I. S. MEHTA

Madhya Pradesh is a new State created in 1956 out of Madhya Bharat, Vindhya Pradesh, Bhopal and seventeen districts of old Madhya Pradesh. As its name indicates, Madhya Pradesh lies in the very heart of India. It has been a meeting ground of many influences and cultures and a hunting ground of many empire builders. It is the largest state of the country as regards its area. The state lies mainly on the tableland of Central India and is a watershed for hundreds of rivers which flow out of the state in all directions, feeding the Ganga and the Yamuna in the north, the Narmada and Tapti flowing westward to the Arabian sea and the Wardha, Wainganga and Mahanadi flowing north and east towards the Bay of Bengal. Its very geographical location on the map of India indicates what a vital role Madhya Pradesh has to play in the development of India as a whole. Madhya Pradesh is a sprawling state covering an area of 4,43,452 sq. kms. with a population of 3,23,72,400.

The State ranges between latitudes  $13^{\circ}\text{N}$  to  $26\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}\text{N}$  and between longitudes  $74^{\circ}\text{E}$  to  $84\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  with the Tropic of Cancer running along parallel to the Narmada. The main physical regions of the state are: The Northern region, the Malwa plateau, the Narmada Valley, the Satpura ridge and the Chhatisgarh Plains. The climate is extreme in the north, temperate, breezy and salubrious in the Malwa Plateau and generally wet and humid in the eastern and southern parts. The State possesses soils of almost every description, from the rich black-cotton to the dry stony red earth. Nearly 30 percent of the State's area is covered by forests, largest in India. The tribal population is the largest among all the states in the country. From resources point of view, Madhya Pradesh is the envy of many states in India. It is rich in manganese ore, coal, iron, bauxite, soapstone, limestone, diamonds, dolomite, graphite etc.

The people in the state are chiefly drawn from two racial stocks. Those in the northern area including the Narmada Valley are broadly from the Indo-Aryan stock while the Southern and Eastern areas which were former Gondwana contain a good sprinkling of the abori-

ginal tribes and the Gond and Indo-Dravidian stocks. Pushed by the Aryan settlers when they crossed the Vindhya, the original inhabitants retreated into the forests.

Hindi is the chief language commonly understood and spoken throughout the State. There are however, local and regional dialects like Malwi, Nimari, Bundelkhandi, Baghelkhandi, Brijbhasha and Chhatisgarhi. The tribal population has its own dialects like Halbi, Gondi, Bhilali etc.

The State has all the ingredients that go to make a great unit. It has vast tracts of virgin land, untapped mineral wealth in abundance, great river systems which could water its fields and produce power needed for rapid industrialization. Above all, the state has a rich legacy of cultural heritage dating back to thousands of years before Christ. The State of Madhya Pradesh as it is constituted today has never been administratively under one authority. Historically, this area abounds in ancient sites. The pre-historic cave paintings at Hoshangabad and Pachmarhi and the discovery of stone implements in the Narmada Valley have pushed back the history of this region to pre-historic distant past. It has been a cradle of pre-neolithic and neolithic civilization. The Puranas speak of the *Nishadas* as the inhabitants of the Vindhya and Satpura forests. A clearer picture emerges from the Mauryan times. A system of *Mahajanpadas* was in force at Avanti and Chedi. Ashok has left numerous memories in the form of pillars edicts and inscriptions. Shungas ruled most of the territories of M. P. from Bharhut and the Satavahans from Tripuri followed by Krishnas and Vakataks. The period of prosperity and enlightened cultural activity of Chandragupta Vikramaditya left an indelible mark on this area which can be seen even today. Huns were repulsed by Yashodharman in whose memory a pillar stands even today at Mandasaur. Then followed a period of changing dynasties till the invasion of Allauddin Khalji in 1294 A.D. which brought this area under the Muslim rule which lasted for nearly five centuries. In between of course, there had been attempts of local uprising and challenges to muslim authority like that of Rani Durgavati and Raja Chhatrasal. The Marathas during the Peshwaship of Baji Rao I started the campaign of extending their influence in the north and his generals like Malhar Rao, Ranoji Sindhia and Udaji Pawar were able to establish the Maratha influence at Indore, Gwalior, Dhar, Dewas and adjoining territories but could not coordinate their activities for long. Their mutual rivalries and feuds led to their ultimate fall at the hands of the East India Company. However, their dominions continued in the forms of Indian states under the suzerainty of the British.

In the uprising of 1857 this area had played an important part and had supplied some of the most luminous leaders in the movement like Rani of Jhansi, Raja Bakhtawar Singh of Amjhera and others. In the struggle for independence and national awakening also the area did not lag behind. The Praja Mandals were established in the major states of Madhya Bharat and the National Congress continued the struggle in former M. P. which was a directly administered territory of the British. After independence Madhya Bharat was formed in Central India in 1948 and Vindhya Pradesh in the eastern part and later as result of the States Reorganisation in 1956 the new M. P. as it exists today was formed on the first of November, 1956.

Few other states in India have such a wealth of cultural heritage as Madhya Pradesh. Its contribution to the cultural life of the country is equally great and outstanding. There are remains

of a glorious past scattered all over the territory telling a lively tale of great empires, of victory and defeat, of heroes and heroines, of poets and philosophers. Their impact can be felt even today from the songs of the bards and street singers.

The great stupas of Sanchi and Bharhut; Manmandir, Sasbahu and Teli Temples of Gwalior Fort; the Udaygiri caves, the Bagh caves, the pillar of Mandsaur; observatory of Ujjain; the Jahajmahal, Hindola Mahal, Hoshangshahs' tomb, Roopmati Pavilion and Bazbahadurs' palace at Mandu, Sirpur excavations and numerous mosques, ghats and temples speak of the glory that was once the pride of the country. The temples of Khajuraho have acquired a world wide fame. It was once a resplendent city and a religious centre of repute. Through the loving caress of some prince charming they awakened once more to life and glory. So much so that today they are counted among India's foremost architectural and sculptural treasures. Visitors from all over the world flock to these fabulous temples of Madhya Pradesh.

In the history of literature this region has produced men of excellence. One is at once reminded of great men of letters of the ancient period like Kalidas, Bhavabhuti, Varahmihir, Mandan Mishra and followed by hordes of stalwarts in Hindi literature. It has a rich legacy in Music too. Great names in the world of Music of this area are Vikramaditya, Baija, Raja Mansingh, Bhanu, Tansen, Baj Bahadur and Roopmati each with his disticnt contribution.



# MALWA AND ITS CULTURAL HERITAGE

BY

Dr. RANVIR SAXENA

## THE ANTIQUITY OF MALWA

Malwa has a rich legacy of culture, with a continuity running to well over twenty five centuries. In the epic and the ancient period, the region now known as Malwa, went by the name of Avanti. The Capital of Avanti was Ujjeni or Ujjaini, the Ozene of Periplus, ruled in the time of Buddha by Chand Pradyota. Ujjain, since times immemorial, has been regarded as one of the six sacred towns of India. At the time of Periplus it was an important market linking the northern states of India to the sea-port of Barygaza (modern Bharuch). The Chinese traveller Fa-Hsien found Ujjaini as a flourishing university town. In the popular memory Ujjaini is unbreakably linked with the name of King Vikramaditya—Chandragupta II of the historians. It is also associated with the name of Kalidasa, one of the greatest poets of all times. Besides Ujjaini or Avantika, other important seats of arts and culture appeared on the map of Malwa. Mention may be made of the Dharanagri (Dhar) associated with the Parmar Kings Munj and Bhoja; Vidisha reminding us of King Ashoka; Dashpur (Mandsaur) linked with the name of Yeshodharman who subdued the Huns, and Mahishmati (Maheshwar) which brings into one's mind the memorable debate between Shankracharya and Mandan Mishra. From purely geographic considerations Mahishmati does not form a part of Malwa proper, but culturally it has not only been a part of Malwa, but also its capital at least twice—once in the ancient times and later in the medieval period.

It is generally believed that the region formerly known as Avanti, earned the new appellation of Malwa somewhere in the 7th or the 8th century A.D. The credit for this change in nomenclature is given to a primitive and brave tribe of Punjab—the Malawas. At the time of the invasion of India by Alexander the Great, the Malawa tribe, living on the banks of the river Ravi, gave a tough battle to the Greek invader. It seems that this tribe later migrated from Punjab and moving through Rajasthan settled down on the Malwa Plateau. Jawaharlal Nehru, in his 'Discovery of India', has mentioned the thesis identifying this Malwa tribe with the Malay race which played a dominant role in the history of Indonesia and the Malay peninsula. There is little doubt that the Malwa region derived its present name from this tribe.

## MALWA—ITS FRONTIERS

A popular Malwi couplet lays down the boundaries of Malwa in the following words:—

इत चम्बल, उत बेतवा, मालव सीम सुजान ।  
दक्षिन दिसि है नर्मदा, यह पूरी पहचान ॥

—the river Chambal in the north-west, Betwa in the east and Narmada in the south, describe, in a fair measure, the frontiers of Malwa.

Sir John Malcolm, in his inimitable and evocative language has defined Malwa in the following words:—

‘Malwa proper, may therefore, be concisely described as a table-land, in general open and highly cultivated, varied with small, conical and table-crowned hills and low ridges, watered by numerous rivers and small streams, and favoured with a rich, productive soil, and a mild climate, alike conducive to the health of man, and a liberal supply of his wants and luxuries.’

## CULTURE OF PEACE

Indeed, Malwa has been blessed with a soil so fertile and climate so equable and salubrious that until recently it has been known as a region of plenty and prosperity. Agricultural prosperity and immunity from famines and scarcities helped in the evolution of a hedonistic culture. Malwa has been fortunate in another notable respect as well. Its location far away from the frontiers of India blessed it with insurance against foreign invasions. The only threat to the peace of Malwa came from the rulers of Delhi on their march to subdue the south. All these factors, combined to direct the evolution of its talents into entirely peaceful pursuits.

## THE FOLK CULTURE

Two distinct currents may be discerned in the twentyfive hundred year old cultural traditions of Malwa. The Urban-metropolitan culture on the one hand and the Rural-folk culture on the other. The two differ widely. Whereas the former bears deep imprint of the impact of the religion, race and the imported culture of the rulers, the latter continues to be rooted in the smiling farms of Malwa. The folk culture may be less sophisticated, but it is more lively and secular, and exhibits greater continuity than the metropolitan culture. The Murals done in the homes of the Malwis of all castes and communities are rich in line and colour. The folk songs of Malwa, and the folk music, have a current of hope and confidence running through them like warm blood coursing through the veins of a living, healthy and strong person. Mention may be made of the Malwi folk dance-drama, the Mach, so popular in the region through times immemorial. It continues to draw large audiences even today. The malwi folk tales recount the wisdom of King Vikram and Raja Bhoja, their sense of justice and love for knowledge. These apocryphal tales are didactive in nature and contain the distilled wisdom and the ethics of India.

## CONTINUITY AND CHANGE

The other current of culture is the one recorded in the text books of history. This current of cultural heritage, quite understandably, bears the imprint of the changes in the political

picture of India, largely Delhi, and Malwa. As the rulers changed in Ujjain, Dhar, Maheshwar and Mandav, to name only a few seats of political power in the changing panorama of Malwa, there came a change in the architecture, painting and literature as well. Court patronage being the common feature, these changes were rather inevitable and, no doubt, contributed new dimensions and new hues to the colourful culture of this ancient region.

Like the long culture of India, the culture of Malwa is a continuous culture, basically breathing the same spirit. This long culture may be divided, broadly, into three epochs—the ancient, the medieval and the modern.

### LITERATURE

Malwa has been richest in its literature. The most notable writer being the immortal Kalidasa, who, according to Shri Aurobindo, together with Valmiki and Vyas, constitutes the very essence of the history of ancient India. Historians may debate about the birth place of Kalidasa and differ about the identity and the chronology of King Vikramaditya, whose court at Ujjain the great Kalidasa is said to have adorned with his genius, there can be no doubt about the intimacy of Kalidasa with Ujjain and Malwa. Works of Kalidasa constitute the most lasting contribution of Malwa to the Sanskrit Literature—and to the literature of India and the world. Banbhata, Bharvi and the poet-philosopher Bharthari were other notable men of letters who lived and worked in Malwa.

Then there was the Parmar King of Dharanagari, King Munja, no mean poet himself, a great patron of literature and learning. It was said on his passing away:

गते मुंजे यशः पुंजे,  
निरालम्बा सरस्वती ।

—the death of King Munj, the gifted one, has rendered the Muse helpless.

King Bhoja, also of Dharanagari was a genius no less. Equally well versed in the use of the arms and the arts, this great ruler of Malwa, like a magnet, attracted talent of all sorts to his court.

In the medieval period, when Sanskrit had given way to Malwi as the language of the people, even the Muslim rulers of Malwa patronised the Malwi language and took pride in learning it. Dr. Upendra Nath Day tells us that the Khilji Sultan Mahmud could compose verses in Malwi. He was a great patron of Sanskrit literature as well. Under his patronage the Jain *Kalpa-sutra* was transcribed at the fort of Mandu. Sangram Singh Soni wrote his *Buddhi Sagar*. The Jain scholar Shrutakirti wrote his Prakrit Apbhraṃsa works *Pramesthi Prakash Sara* and *Hari Vansa Purana*, in the 15th century, at Mandu. Nasir Shah, another Mandu sultan, was also a great patron of art and culture, particularly of Malwi language. Many Hindi and Malwi books were written during his reign, more notable being the *Lalitang Charitra* of Ishwara Suri. The book is an excellent example of the Hindi-Malwi written in this period. Nasir Shah got a book written in Hindi on chemistry *Nasirsahi Kankaligranth*.

The tradition of the Muslim rulers patronizing Hindi and even taking up writing in Hindi was picked up by Baz Bahadur as well. Baz Bahadur and Rupmati composed in Malwi and enriched the Malwi music and literature. Jadunath's *Khanderao Raso* is another notable Malwi work of the Medieval period. There is no need to reproduce the whole catalogue of the literary creations of this period. What is important is to note that in the realm of literature there was no distinction of religion or race. Irrespective of the religion the Muslims and the Hindus were just Malwis and enriched the literature of Malwa as its true sons.

The modern Hindi writer of Malwa continues the rich literary tradition of the past. There is a long list of eminent writers produced by Malwa in the modern and the contemporary period. Bai Krishna Sharma "Naveen" and Prabhag Chandra Sharma of Sahajapur, Premi of Guna, Pradeep of Barnagar, Virendra Jain, Ramesh Bakshi and Sharad Joshi of Indore are only some of many notable names in the literary arena.

## PAINTING

In the field of painting the highest water mark was reached with the Bagh art. The caves at Bagh, very similar to the caves at Ajanta, carry illustrations from the life of the Buddha. These murals are not only inspired by the same spirit of spiritualism and dedication but appear to be the work of the same school of painting. Another remarkable milestone was the painting of *Kalpasutra* at Mandu. Day has quoted Promod Chandra for the view that under the patronage of the Mandu sultans there developed a new style of Malwi painting. *Ni'matnamah* of Ghiyath Shah and also of Nasir Shah display a fusion of the Turkman style of Shiraz and the Indian (Jain) styles of paintings. Day is of the view that *Ni'matnamah* paintings, "certainly mark the birth of a new style which may conveniently be designated as Malwa painting." W. G. Archer may be quoted for the view that the Ragini paintings of Jaunpur and Bundi bear a clear imprint of the Malwi school. The romantic painting done under the patronage and inspiration of Baz Bahadur and other rulers "laid the foundations of Rajput painting in Mewar and produced the virile compositions which exhilarate Indian minds today."

In no other field has the modern Malwa maintained the high traditions of the past as in this field. Starting with Nana Bhai Bhujang there has been a wonderful revival of this art. Devlalikar presided over the Indore School of Art and inspired a whole generation. The greatest name to emerge out of this inspiration is that of N. S. Bendre, at present the Dean of the Faculty of Fine Arts at M. S. University at Baroda. Another modern giant produced by Malwa is M. H. Hussain. Devakrishna Joshi, Manohar Joshi and Chinchalkar are some of the other notable painters of Malwa.

## MUSIC

Traditions of music in Malwa are the oldest. The tribal music of the Bhils is the example of the stirrings of the primitive heart. The folk music of the non-tribals is yet another current of the audio art kept alive, with modifications, since the beginnings of civilization.

In the twelfth century, Jaideva the author of *Geeta-Govind* invented the *Malava-raga*. Although this 'lyrical songster' did not belong to Malwa, it is believed that he only polished and systematized a *raga* popular in Malwa since the ancient times. There is no doubt that music

had always occupied a very important place in the temples and in the courts of the Malwi rulers. Ujjaini, Dharanagri and Mahishmati were important seats of the musical art in the ancient India. In the medieval period another name was added to the old seats—that of Mandu. Sultan Baz Bahadur of Mandu was himself an unrivalled singer of his time. Baz Bahadur and Rupmati lived poetry and music. Baz Bahadur is credited with the invention of the *Baz Khani Khayal* and his lady love, Rupmati, invented the *Blup Kalyan Ragini*.

In the modern period music flourished under the patronage of the rulers of the states of Indore, Dhar, Bhopal, Gwalior and Dewas etc. Since Independence there is a new spurt in the interest in this delicate art. Kumar Gandharva, Rahimuddin Khan, Amba Das, Babukhan, Rajjab Ali Khan, Haider Hussain, are big names representing high talent.

### SCULPTURE AND ARCHITECTURE

Sculpture and architecture being the best preserved arts. There is solid evidence of the richest legacy of these art forms in Malwa. The extant temples, forts and buildings at Ujjain, Dhar, Sanchi, Bagh, Vaisaha, Mandasaur, Maheshwar and a host of other places speak volumes about the old and lofty traditions of these arts in Malwa.

Sanchi sculpture in particular is an example of the most advanced style of Indian sculpture. Not merely the philosophy and the spirit animating the Sanchi sculptures, the naturalistic treatment of the human form, the truthful rendering of the animal life and the decorative beauty of the sculptures place them on the highest pedestal of art. E. B Havell rightly feels that, "it would be difficult to find among the Gandharan sculptures anything to surpass it either in technique or in artistic feeling."

Next to the ancient and Gupta period architecture, mention may be made of the Mandu architecture. It is held by many experts that the Dhar and Mandu architecture of the medieval period is a product of the soil. This art is not just a juxtaposing of the Hindu and the Muslim influences, but their complete fusion and assimilation. Commenting on the style of Jahaz Mahal at Mandu, Day remarks, "...there is nothing like Hindu or Muslim, it is all Malwi."

There is no doubt Malwa has a rich cultural heritage. For the last two thousand five hundred years it has a record of continuous culture. Philosophers, astronomers and astrologers (like Varahmihir), scientists (like Dhanvatari), artists and men of letters have been born on the soil of Malwa. It has played host to differing religions and cultures. And out of the differences it has always attempted to assimilate, fuse, synthesise and create something of its own. It has been a traditional seat of Indian culture. But what is most remarkable is the fact that more than the cult of the sword, Malwa has lived by the dignity of its arts.



# INDORE CITY

BY

INDORIAN

Indore, the largest and the most advanced city of Madhya Pradesh is situated on the Malwa Plateau at an altitude of 1738 feet above Sea level. Set amidst lush green vegetation and small hills and tanks, the city enjoys pleasant climate all the year round. Two small streams, the Saraswati and the Khan, run through the city. On their confluence in the city stands the small but old temple of Sangamnath.

## **History of its origin.**

Indore is relatively a young town having been founded near about 1715. Patrick Geddes, the celebrated town planner, who prepared a master-plan for the development of Indore way back in 1918, has observed that the city had its beginning as a "peaceful little religious centre". Patrick Geddes, observes that the origin of the city depended, "besides its natural advantage as a stage, and an attractive resting-point, upon the route of Yogis and pilgrims between the holy city of Ujjain and the doubly sacred river Narbada". The importance of the place rested in its location on the highway connecting the north with the south. As the mighty Mugal empire went to pieces, Malwa assumed great importance in the secular history of India. Marathas used it as a gateway to the North. The passing Maratha chiefs attracted trade. Thus gradually, Indore became an important stage and a resting place for the armies moving between the south and the north.

In 1733, the place, where now the city of Indore stands, was gifted to the Malhar Rao Holkar, the founder of the Holkar dynasty, by the Peshwa Baji Rao. The first notable construction was the temple of Indreshwar in 1741. It is generally held that "Indur or Indore" is a corruption of Indreshwar—the initial name of the settlement.

## **Indore and Ahilya Bai**

The next major step in the growth of the importance of the tiny village of Indreshwar, Indur or Indore, was the affection and the attention it received at the hands of Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar. She liked the place immensely and moved the headquarters of the pargana from Kampail to Indore, although Maheshwar continued to be the capital of the Holkar State.

## **Sack of the Town**

As Luard tells us, in 1801 Indore experienced the worst event of its life. Deep-rooted rivalry between Daulat Rao Scindia and Yeshwant Rao Holkar led to a bloody engage-

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Indore, the largest and the most advanced city of Madhya Pradesh is situated on the Malwa Plateau at an altitude of 1738 feet above Sea level. Set amidst lush green vegetation and small hills and tanks, the city enjoys pleasant climate all the year round. Two small streams, the Saraswati and the Khan, run through the city. On their confluence in the city stands the small but old temple of Sangamnath.

## **History of its origin.**

Indore is relatively a young town having been founded near about 1715. Patrick Geddes, the celebrated town planner, who prepared a master-plan for the development of Indore way back in 1918, has observed that the city had its beginning as a "peaceful little religious centre". Patrick Geddes, observes that the origin of the city depended, "besides its natural advantage as a stage, and an attractive resting-point, upon the route of Yogis and pilgrims between the holy city of Ujjain and the doubly sacred river Narbada". The importance of the place rested in its location on the highway connecting the north with the south. As the mighty Mugal empire went to pieces, Malwa assumed great importance in the secular history of India. Marathas used it as a gateway to the North. The passing Maratha chiefs attracted trade. Thus gradually, Indore became an important stage and a resting place for the armies moving between the south and the north.

In 1733, the place, where now the city of Indore stands, was gifted to the Malhar Rao Holkar, the founder of the Holkar dynasty, by the Peshwa Baji Rao. The first notable construction was the temple of Indreshwar in 1741. It is generally held that "Indur or Indore" is a corruption of Indreshwar—the initial name of the settlement.

## **Indore and Ahilya Bai**

The next major step in the growth of the importance of the tiny village of Indreshwar, Indur or Indore, was the affection and the attention it received at the hands of Devi Ahilya Bai Holkar. She liked the place immensely and moved the headquarters of the pargana from Kampail to Indore, although Maheshwar continued to be the capital of the Holkar State.

## **Sack of the Town**

As Luard tells us, in 1801 Indore experienced the worst event of its life. Deep-rooted rivalry between Daulat Rao Scindia and Yeshwant Rao Holkar led to a bloody engage-

ment near Indore on the 14 October. Yeshwant Rao was defeated and forced to retire. "The city was delivered up to the mercies of the notorious Sarje Rao Ghatke, who plundered the town, razed all houses of any importance to the ground and inflicted every form of atrocity on the inhabitants, so that the wells in the neighbourhood were filled with corpses of unfortunate women who had committed suicide to escape dishonour."

Despite the serious set-back to the prosperity and progress of the town received by this event, the town was soon up on its legs.

### **Indore becomes the capital**

A new chapter in the history of Indore opens with the treaty of Mandsaur in 1818 which brought the capital of the Holkars from Bhanpura to Indore. Indore continued to be capital town until the formation of the State of Madhya Bharat in May 1948. From 1948 to 1956 it was the summer capital of Madhya Bharat.

Indore was again in the news in 1857. A part of the Holkar Army revolted and attacked the Residency. Indore became a hot-bed of anti-British uprising.

Once peace returned to Central India, the town resumed its march towards its evolution as an important seat of trade and commerce.

### **Steps towards modernization**

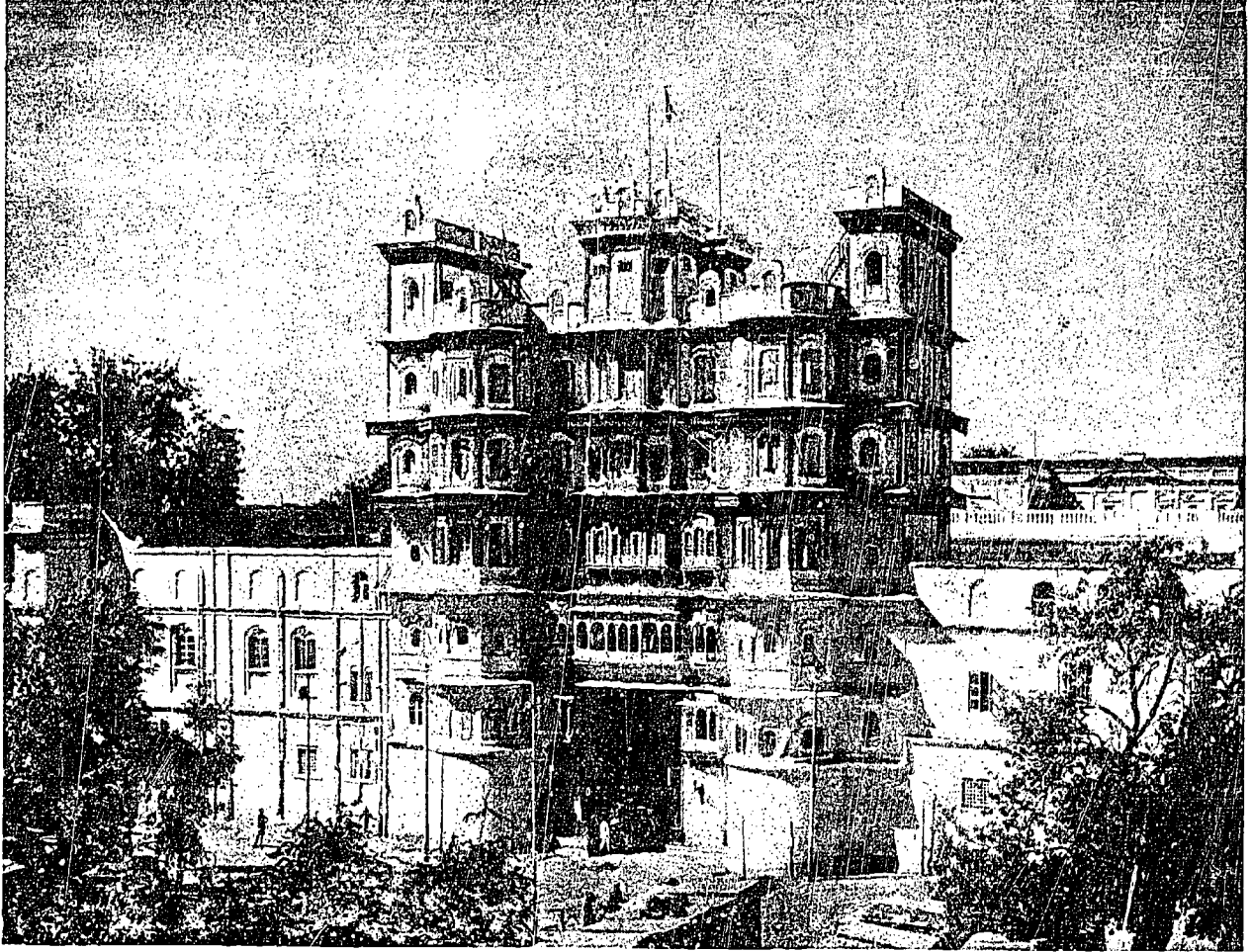
The credit for the modernization of the town goes to Tukoji Rao II (1844-86). It was under his rule that a number of remarkable changes were initiated. Indore had its first municipality (1868), was connected by a railway line (1877), effected the Postal Convention (1878) and had a Medical school (1878). The first textile mill was established in 1866—due to the initiative of Tukoji Rao himself. The Krishnapura bridge, the Musafir Khana, the cenotaph of Ma Saheba are some of the creations of this remarkable ruler.

This love for construction was equally evident in Maharaj Shivaji Rao Holkar (1886-1903) who built the Holkar College, The Moti Bungla, The Shivavilas Palace The Indore General Library and the cenotaph of Tukoji Rao II. Tukoji Rao III and Maharaj Yeshwant Rao Holkar II added further to the glory and the beauty of the town. The Manik Bag Palace, the Maharani Sarai, King Edward Hall (now known as the Gandhi Hall) The Yeshwant Niwas Palace, The Law Courts, The Lal Bag Palace were some of the new constructions.

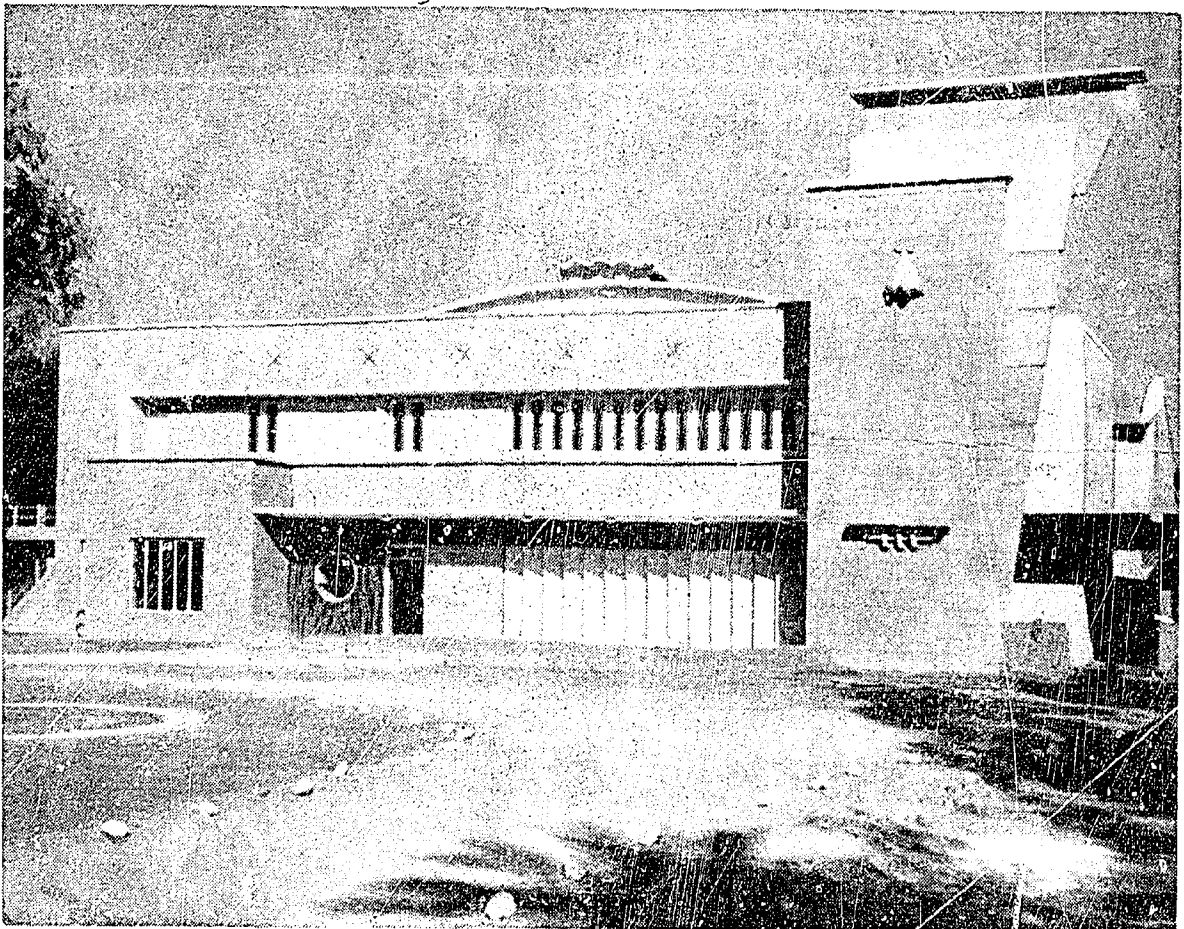
The quickness with which Indore adopted the modern inventions is evident from the fact that the electric lighting was introduced in the town in 1906 and the telephone in 1907. The telegraph was here during the mutiny. The eminent town planner Sir Patrick Geddes was invited by the State to report on the town planning of Indore towards city development in 1918. The elaborate master plan proposed by Geddes is read as a text book by the Town Planners even now.

### **The Demographic growth.**

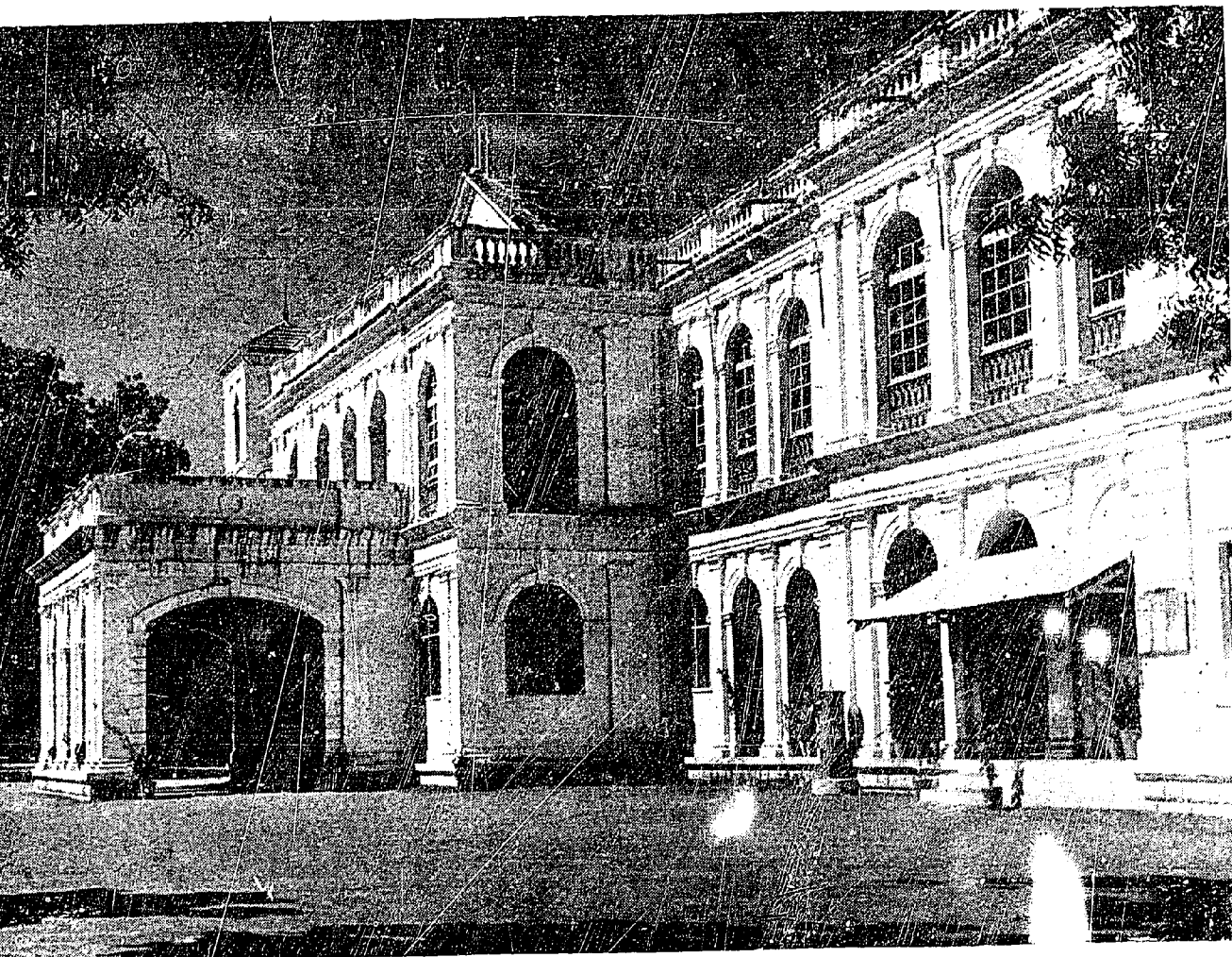
The tremendous growth of the city since it became the capital of the State is evident from the demographic growth, as given in the table below:—



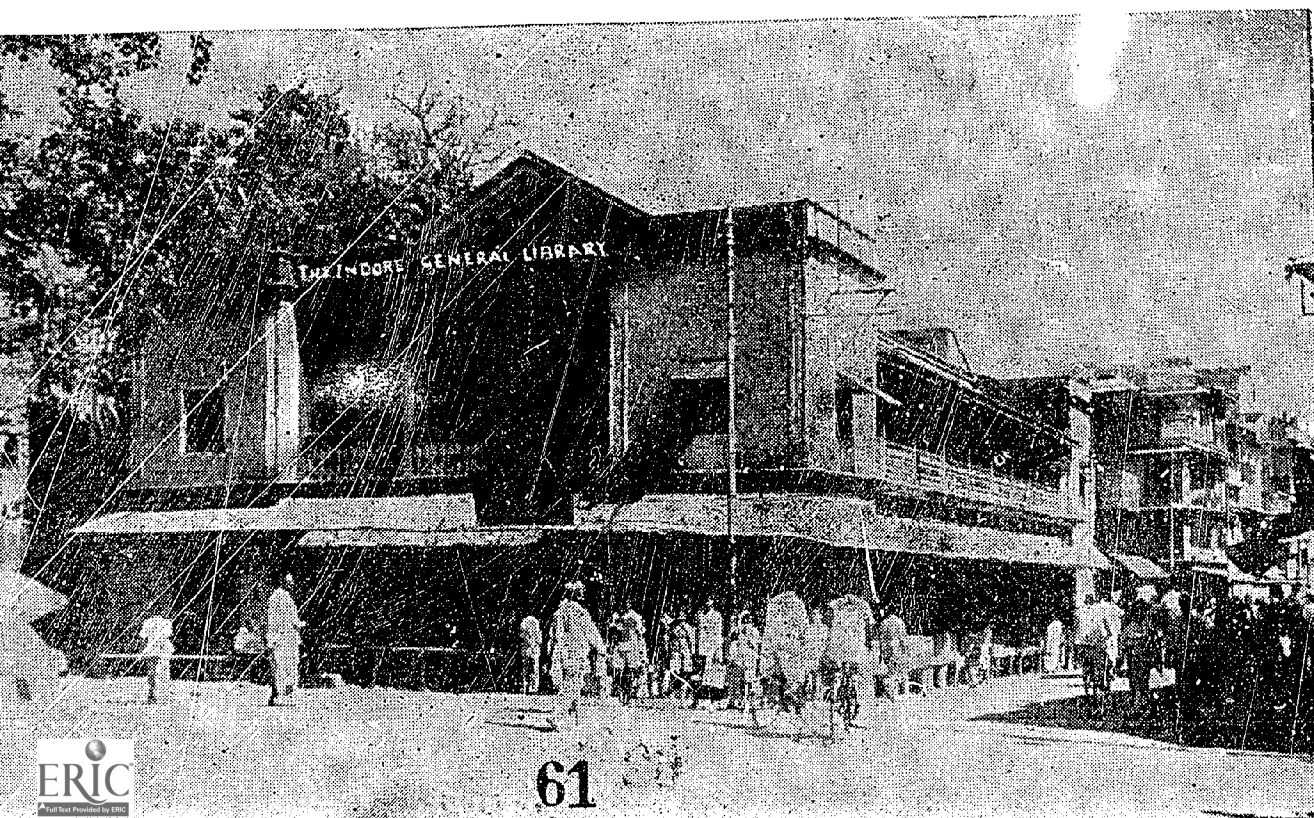
RAJVADA



RAVINDRA NATYA GRAHA



HOLKAR SCIENCE COLLEGE



### Population, Area and Density of Population of Indore City (1820-1967)

Year	Population	Area (in square miles)	Density of population
1820	63,560	—	—
1881	75,401	—	—
1891	82,984	—	—
1901	86,686	5.50	18,160
1911	57,282	8.25	6,818
1921	1,07,948	8.28	12,922
1931	1,47,100	11.39	12,915
1941	2,03,695	11.39	17,884
1951	3,10,859	13.19	23,568
1961	3,94,941	21.59	18,223
1967	4,48,000 (Estimated)	21.59	20,708

The growth of the city is due, partly, to flourishing trade and Commerce. Indore is a great market for cotton, groundnuts, wheat and a number of other important cash and commercial crops grown in the hinterland of Malwa and Nimar. It is also a great centre for the distribution of the finished and the semi-finished products to the small towns and villages of Malwa and Nimar. In the last few decades Indore has developed its own engineering and hydrogenation industries, besides the old cotton textile industries.

The creation of the Indore City Municipality in 1868 is a notable landmark in the progress of the city. The Municipality widened and metalled the existing roads, built new ones constructed drains, and planted trees in and around the city. In 1860, up-to-date water works were constructed, and these were extended from time to time. In 1956 the Indore city municipality was made a corporation. In 1924 a City Improvement Trust was constituted. A number of improvement schemes recommended by the Trust and sanctioned by the Government have been carried out. The most notable among these extension are the Snehalataganj, the Manoramaganj and Palasia extensions. The Trust is playing an important role in the development of the city on the sound lines in a planned manner.

#### Places of Attraction

The chief business centres in Indore are the Siyaganj, Bada and Chhota Sarafas, Ditwaria Bazar, The Tukoji Rao Cloth Market, The Savarkar market, Topkhana and the Khajuri Bazar.

The most striking building in the city is the Juna Rajwada or old palace, which stands in front of a square park and towers above the rest of the town. It was completed in 1818 by Maharaja Malhar Rao II. Near the Khan river (west) stand the *chhatris* of Ma-Saheba Keshari Bai and of Maharaja Tukoji Rao II. Among the temples, the most beautiful construc-

tion is that of the Jain Mandir, in Ditwaria Bazar, built by Sir Hukamchand. A very old temple is the Gopal Mandir (near the old Palace). Among private residences, the handsomest is the Indra Bhawan, built by late Sir Hukumchand, who was responsible for a number of other palatial structures like the Rang-mahal and the Shish-mahal also. The Town Hall (popularly known as the Gandhi Hall), The High Court, The Moti Bungla (the Secretariat), The Ravindra Natya Griha, The Nehru Stadium, The Yeshwant Rao Hospital and The Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Medical College, The Holkar College, The Daly College and The Yeshwant Niwas Palace, The Lal Bag, The Manik Bag, The Shivalas Palace are some of the other buildings worth a visit.

### **Picnic-spots**

There are a number of beauty spots and picnic-places on the outskirts of the town like the Piplia-pala, the Shirpur, the Sukh-niwas and the Yeshwant Sagar.

### **Traditions of Culture and Art**

No account of Indore would be complete without a mention of its high traditions of art, culture and literature. Indore has produced eminent painters like Devalalika, N. S. Bendre, Manohar Joshi, Devkrishna Joshi, Chinchalkar and Hussain. In the field of music it has produced great musicians like Neelkanth Apte, Rahimuddin Khan, Munir Khan and Dhulji. The Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti, whose foundation was laid by Mahatma Gandhi in 1915, and its magazine "Veena", have played an important role in the growth of modern Hindi literature.

Indore is the third biggest centre of Hindi Journalism in India. The first newspaper published in Indore was the *Malwa-Akhbar* in 1848. At present it has half a dozen dailies in Hindi, some with modern teleprinter services and the most up-to-date printing equipment.

### **Educational Centre**

Indore is a great educational centre. Every type of general and technical education is provided by the various types of institutions.

Indore is very well connected with the rest of the country. It is situated on the Bombay-Agra Road almost on the mid-point. It is a railway junction on the metre and the broad-gauge lines of the Western Railway. The Indian Airlines Corporation provides a daily air link between Bombay and Delhi.

Mention may also be made of the All India Radio Station in Indore which caters to the Malwi region.

And last, but not the least, is the spirit of friendliness and the warm heartedness of the people of Indore. One does not take long to feel at home at Indore.



# UNIVERSITY OF INDORE AND ITS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES

BY

N. RAMACHANDRAN

Full development of a community cannot be achieved without a strong educational base and in educational development, stress has to be laid on the expansion of basic requisites like library and laboratory facilities, students and teachers hostels, scholarships and free-ships for deserving students as also increased emphasis on research work. On this principle, we are trying to build, in 300 acres, an attractive and functionally useful campus for this nascent and growing University which has 21 colleges and 17,000 students of whom more than 2,000 are in the Post-graduate classes.

## A CITY UNIVERSITY

The city of Indore in which the University is situated, is the largest city in the State and could rightly be called the commercial capital of Madhya Pradesh. It has a nice winter and a mild summer and thus has an equable and wonderful climate all through the year. All the colleges except one are in the city itself and thus the University is a city university like Delhi, Bombay, Baroda or Jabalpur universities. Indore has a good educational background and has citizenry which is proud of its educational traditions and is prepared to take part in the work of building for Indore a really modern university. It is proposed to exploit all these natural advantages to their fullest extent in the development of the university so that with the help of the manpower trained by its University, this prosperous city could grow further and help the State Government and the country as a whole in its plan towards progress.

## THE MASTER PLAN

We have therefore, drawn up, with the help of a Development Panel consisting of senior professors, education experts, eminent public men and the University Architect, a Master Plan for the development of the campus. Preliminary work has been done in this connection and a programme of development in the years to come has been drawn up on the basis of a new perspective thinking. This is expected to involve an expenditure of Rs. 4.6 crores in the near future and envisages the establishment of a Central University Library at an estimated cost of Rs. 20 lakhs for building and Rs. 10 lakhs for books to make it serve adequately both the needs of undergraduate and postgraduate students as also the research scholars. Besides, Plans are being considered for establishment of the Science and Humanities Blocks with well equipped labora-

tories and a College of Commerce and Business Management. It is also intended to have enough quarters for teachers and staff, several hostels for students, an administrative office as the nerve centre to direct and guide all the University affairs, a workshop and an industrial estate, a stadium for games and sports, a swimming pool, a health centre and other amenities.

### THE FIRST STEP

As a first step towards this development, it is proposed to undertake development schemes of the order of Rs. 42 lakhs during the Fourth Plan period. This has been approved by the University Grants Commission, who will make available Rs. 30 lakhs in the first instance, in relation to the beginnings to be made in some fields. This will be buttressed by grants which are expected from other sources, especially from the State Government and local munificence. During the Fourth Plan period, it is proposed to start university teaching Departments in the subjects of Physics, Mathematics, Statistics and Economics and also to undertake the first phase of the University Library at an estimated cost of Rs. 11 lakhs including Rs. 3 lakhs for books. The scheme approved by the University Grants Commission also envisages the construction of some quarters for staff, a Guest House and Students Welfare activity schemes. The plans and estimates for the purpose are being prepared. Dr. Zakir Hussain, the President of India, has kindly consented to lay the foundation stone for the University Library, which would in effect mean that of the University itself, on 10th February, 1969. Action towards that end is being taken.

### THE PROGRESS

As a part of our Fourth Plan programme, we have already constructed the House of Languages, the Bhasha Bhavan, where the modern European and modern Indian Languages are to be taught. Action is under way to start Russian classes shortly in the Bhavan. Arrangements are also being made to have the courses in Business Management soon. The University Printing Press has now started functioning. We have also a scheme for the development of the college of Education as an important research Centre in Madhya Pradesh for educational research and educational problems. The new college building, constructed at a cost of about Rs. 4.5 lakhs is to be inaugurated by the Union Education Minister, Dr. Triguna Sen on the 26th December, 1968.

Thus the process has begun and it will gather momentum in relation to the stimulus and encouragement it receives. It is hoped that as a result there will be an all round improvement of education and general rise in the standards of education in the city. We appeal to the enlightened members of the public to join hands with us in the big tasks ahead, in the construction of a modern University of Indore of which the citizens of Indore and the whole nation could be proud.



# INDORE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

BY

A. L. WADIKAR



The Indore University Library is in its infant stage. The University was established in May 1964. The beginning towards the organisation of University library was made by the end of 1965 when the appointment of the Assistant Librarian was made. The library has just started making progress and it can be said with some degree of confidence that the foundations of University Library are being laid on a sound footing.

The University authorities took a very right step of entrusting the organisation of library to a professional librarian from the very beginning. This is of basic importance. But for this basic decision, we know, some libraries though grown in size, are in bad shape and in disarray. Unlike many other university libraries, there is no interference in the internal organisation of the library by university authorities. The first Vice-Chancellor of the University, Shri H. S. Kamath and the Registrar Shri G. N. Tandan are to be thanked for the administrative organisation at the beginning. Now under the present Vice-Chancellor, a vigorous and speedy growth of the library is well assured. Shri Joshi himself has deep interest in University library. He has a rich experience of organising libraries and knowledge of technical matters. He has been in administrative and organizational charge of big libraries in Government of India, like the Central Secretariat library and libraries of the Planning Commission and of the University Grants Commission. He has also been President of the Government of India Librarians Association for a long period. Among the development plans of the University, library development has the first place. It is indeed very fortunate that a person like Shri K. L. Joshi is at the helm of the affairs in this early stage of library planning and development. We are sure that under his able leadership and guidance, the Indore University will soon have one of the most modern library in our country. As for the purely technical side, we are following from the very beginning well established classification scheme and cataloguing code. The books are classified according to Dewey Decimal Scheme (17th ed.) and cataloguing is based on Dr. Ranganathan's Classified Catalogue Code, with some minor adjustments.

### **THE R. N. M. LIBRARY**

The beginning of the library was made with a gift of books and journals (about 10,000 in number) from the Rotarians of California. The collection consists of books on all subjects. Of particular importance among these are the books on Engineering and Medical Sciences, and the back numbers of some important scientific journals. It also has a good collection of American fiction and literature. All these books and journals have been housed in the Assembly Hall of the University and have been named as the "Rotary Nehru Memorial Library" as per the wishes of the donors. The nucleus of the University library's reading room came into existence in the R. N. M. library in September 1967. The Reading Room was thrown open to all teachers and students of the University. This Reading room has however, now been shifted to the first floor of the Students' Home building where the main collection of the library is being accommodated presently.

### **STUDENTS' HOME**

The next step in the development of the library was the establishment of the Students' Home Library as per the U. G. C.'s Scheme. The Students' Home contains multiple copies of text and reference books on all subjects, except Engineering and Medicine. The books kept here are not issued out for home reading, but are to be studied and consulted in the reading room itself. The books are kept on open shelves and readers have open access to them. It is for the first time in Indore that the open access system is being followed in a library. All other libraries in the city are having the old method of keeping the book in locked cabinets. The Students' Home Reading Room is primarily meant for those students who do not have necessary accommodation and proper atmosphere for their study at home. The Reading Room provides sitting arrangement for 120 readers and a quiet atmosphere for serious study. The Reading Room was inaugurated in February 1968 by the first Vice-Chancellor Shri H. S. Kamath. Since the inauguration, the Reading Room is becoming popular every day and by now more than 750 students have enrolled themselves as regular readers.

### **THE MAIN LIBRARY**

The main collection of the University Library is presently being housed on the first floor of Students' Home Building. There is a big hall on the first floor and it is being used as stack room cum reading room. Books and journals on all subjects except Engineering and Medicine are being purchased for the Library. So far 25,000 books have been acquired by the University library. This includes various gifts of books received by the Library. 71 foreign and 96 Indian periodicals are also being subscribed by the Library.

### **GIFTS**

The University library has been fortunate to receive valuable gifts from various sources. The Asia Foundation donated a sizable number of books and journals during the past two years which has given a good fillip to Library's main collection. Besides the Asia Foundation gift the other important gifts are from Muley Family, the British Council, and the U.S.I.S.

The Muley Family collection donated by Shri B. V. Muley, on behalf of the Muley Family of Indore, contains valuable old and rare books (English, Marathi, Sanskrit & Hindi), government reports and documents—especially concerning the former Holkar State. The collection consists

of about 4,000 volumes. Many out-of-print books could be found in this collection, e.g. complete set of the Times History of World War I, etc.

The British Council donated about 1,500 "paper backs from Britian" in August 1968. The gift contains latest books on various subjects and the collection is a real asset to the Library. The readers have found these books very useful and the collection has been a great attraction for them. The University library is indeed grateful to the British Council for this gesture of goodwill. Besides this gift of paper backs, the British Council of Bombay has been sending other material and giving valuable help to us in many other ways. Shri D. K. Devnally, Librarian, for Western Region has been taking keen interest in our nascent library and has always been ready to extend his hand of cooperation at all times. I am indeed grateful to him for his whole hearted cooperation.

The U.S.I.S. has been sending books to the library from time to time. Important among these are the costly reference books like the Cumulative Book Index, Ulrich's Guide to Periodical Literature, latest edition of Columbia Encyclopaedia, American Men of Science etc. Our thanks are due to the U.S.I.S. for their kind cooperation.

#### THE R. C. JALL TEXT BOOK LIBRARY

Recently the Shri R. C. Jall Public Charity Trust of Indore decided to donate funds to the University for establishing Text-Book Libraries. The Trust have donated a sum of Rs. Rs. 15,000/- for the current year (1968-69) for the purpose and similar grant will be made available in the coming years. The Trust proposes to spend about a lac of rupees over the scheme. As per the scheme approved by the Trust multiple copies of Text-books on all subjects including Engineering, Medicine and Education will be purchased out of the funds provided by the Trust. The Text-Book Libraries for Education, Medicine and Engineering would be located separately in the libraries of the respective colleges and the section housing them would be known as 'Shri R. C. Jall Text-Book Library.' For all other subjects a similar separate section would be established in the University Library itself. The books from these Text-Book libraries would be issued to the students for their home study. The scheme is bound to prove of great help to the student community and will form an important part of the University Library.

#### DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS

The University Library has ambitious plans for its development in all its spheres including a multistoried building of its own and establishment of Departmental Libraries. In the Fourth plan proposals the following provision as detailed below has been made which will give some idea about the development of the University Library:—

##### University Library.

Building etc., Staff & furniture (I Phase)	..	..	..	8,60,000/—
Books etc. (from 1967-68 to 1970-71)	..	..	..	3,00,000/—

##### Departmental libraries

##### I. University College of Education

Departmental Library	—	—	—	..	75,000/—
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II. <b>Physics in Science Block</b>					
Departmental library (Books and Journals).	..	..	..	..	1,65,000/—
III. <b>Maths &amp; Statistics in Science Block.</b>					
Books and Journals	..	..	..	..	35,000/—
IV. <b>Economics Department in Arts Block</b>					
Books and Journals.	..	..	..	..	15,000/—
V. <b>Modern European and Indian Languages etc.</b>					
Books (for Russian Students only.)	..	..	..	..	4,000/—

As regards Departmental Libraries it is envisaged that these will form part of the Central Library and will not be treated as independent libraries.

### THE LIBRARY BUILDING

The proposal is to spend about Rs. two millions for the building. It is proposed to make it the most attractive of the entire group of University Buildings. It will be a 'T' shape building with a multi-storied frontage. The building will be designed to accommodate two lac books to start with and reading seats for about 700 students. It will also have study cubicals, Browsing room, reference room, a music library, photo coping and micro film room, an auditorium etc. The requirements and the design of the library is under preparation and Dr. Kesavan is helping the University in this respect. The Vice-Chancellor Shri K. L. Joshi is taking keen interest and giving personal attention to the building plan of the library and it is hoped that when this building will be completed it will be one of the most modern library buildings in India free from mistakes which have occurred in some of the recent library buildings in the country.





## PUBLIC LIBRARIES OF INDORE

BY

V. S. MOGHE

Indore has the proud privilege of holding the All India Library Conference for the second time. In 1951, the Indore General Library, the oldest public library founded in 1854 A. D. played host to the IX All India Library Conference. This year the honour has gone to the University of Indore, mainly due to the initiative of its Vice-Chancellor, Shri K. L. Joshi, who considers the library as the heart of the University. It is in the fitness of things that an academic institution should follow a public institution in arousing library consciousness among the younger generation.

### THE INDORE GENERAL LIBRARY

The credit of starting the public library movement of Indore, and that too in a period of political turmoil and uncertainty, goes to Maharaja Tukoji Rao Holkar II, the c Modern Indore. He founded the present Indore General Library in the Huzurya Mahal of the Old Palace itself with a donation of Rs. 500/- and a recurring grant of Rs. 12/- p.m. These amounts may appear insignificant today but in those days were worth a munificence.

This oldest and premier public library known as 'Kitab Ghar' till 1866 has had to pass through many vicissitudes during its long and chequered existence. The Rules of the Library were first published in 1884 and a catalogue of 2507 books printed in 1891. After shifting from the Palace the library wandered to many places in the City till 1909 when it occupied the present building situated in the heart of the City 'Rajwada Chowk.' Thereafter its progress was rapid due to liberal State patronage. In 1947 the library acquired the adjoining piece of land at a cost of Rs. 31,000/- for its development. On 8th June 1948 the first Popular Government of the State handed over the present State-owned building to the library.

Another noteworthy feature of the library is its democratic character. Since 1915 it is managed by a Committee consisting of 19 members elected by its subscribers who come mostly from the middle and lower middle classes. The Managing Committee has now to work under the general supervision and control of a Board of Trustees.

Apart from regular activities the library runs a Children's Section and also conducts Circulating Centres for Women in different localities.

The Library has many ambitious plans of development and hopes to fulfil them with the generous support of the people.

### **THE VICTORIA LIBRARY**

Another old public library that came into existence in the last decade of 19th century (1887) is the Victoria Library. It is situated in the area formerly known as 'Residency' and caters to the need of the people of the locality.

### **OTHER PROMINENT PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

The Freedom Struggle also gave a fillip to the library movement and many libraries came to be established in the different parts of the city. Amongst these libraries mention may be made of Matoshri Kasturba Gujrathi Vachanalaya and Pustakalaya (1924), Mahesh Sarvajanik Vachanalaya (1928), Pratap Jain Vachanalaya (1932), Pratap Granthalaya (1934), Veer Sarvajanik Vachanalaya (1935), Swetamber Jain Mitra Mandal Sarvajanik Vachanalaya (1936), Shramik Vachanalaya (1949) and the Workers' Institute Library (1960). Most of these libraries have collections mostly in Hindi, which is the main language of the people. Kasturba Gujrathi Library possesses Gujrati books in addition to Hindi. The Swetambar Jain Library possesses some rare manuscripts of 1200 and 1300 A.D. on Jainism. The Shramik Library and the Workers' Institute are open to labourers and workers only.

### **LITERARY INSTITUTIONAL LIBRARIES**

The two old and well-known literary Institutions of the City viz. Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti and Maharashtra Sahitya Sabha, both established in 1915, maintain good libraries devoted to Hindi and Marathi literatures, as their names suggest. Mahatma Gandhi laid the foundation stone of the 'Sarju Prasad Pustakalaya' of the Samiti in 1918. Maharashtra Sahitya Sabha too has its own building and runs a children's library also.

### **INDORE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION LIBRARY AND READING ROOMS.**

The Indore Municipal Corporation also did not lag behind in providing the library facilities needed for a growing city. It established a central library in 1960, which is situated in the Gandhi Hall and has started Free Book Home Service through its mobile van amongst its 48 wards. It also runs Free Reading Rooms in these wards where dailies and weeklies are kept. It is learnt that these Reading Rooms are being closed down now as a measure of economy, which is rather unfortunate. Let us hope that this will not happen.

### **SHRI AHILYA CENTRAL LIBRARY**

The latest development in the promotion of Public library Movement in the city is the establishment of a Government Public Library in 1961 largely due to the munificent donation of Rs. 1,50,000/- given by His late Highness the Maharaja Yeshwant Rao Holkar, a great lover of

books. It is named after that illustrious and pious Ruler of Indore, Devi Shri Ahilya Bai Holkar, known all over India for her charity.

This Central library (in fact intended to be a Regional Library, and at present limited to the City only) has made a good beginning by acquiring latest and standard works of reference and providing library services by adopting modern library technics.

### CONCLUSION

Statistical data about these public libraries as could be obtained is appended herewith. It reveals the sorry plight of these libraries whose growth is retarded for one reason or another. Most of these libraries, though many of them receive grant-in-aid from the Government, are languishing on account of financial resources which are limited and the rising heavy burden of establishment and mounting cost of books and periodicals.

Further, these libraries are suffering from an impoverished book-stock and library accessories, are lacking in modern methods of library services as they still follow the old and crude methods of classification, cataloguing and book issue, and appear to be still living in the 19th century. This can be attributed to the fact that these libraries cannot afford to have trained library personnel to manage the library services on modern lines.

The Indore Sambhag Pustakalaya Sangh, a body of library professionals, is, therefore, undertaking a survey of these libraries with a view to help them in reorganising their services.

That, inspite of many handicaps, these public libraries are sustaining themselves and continue to render library services is praiseworthy and to be admired. This is largely due to their democratic character and library consciousness of the people. Another peculiar feature of these libraries is that they are mostly subscription libraries and take deposits from readers.

Let us hope that the XVII All India Library Conference will enthuse new life and vigour in these libraries. May these libraries develop on modern lines with the generous support of the people and Government alike and continue to render more effective and better services than before, leading to the further progress of the nation !



# COLLEGE LIBRARIES OF INDORE

By

M. D. LONKAR

The city of Indore is proud of its educational heritage. It's oldest college dates back to 1886

To-day there are 21 colleges in Indore and 2 in Mhow. Of these, 20 colleges which include Post-Graduate Colleges, Degree Colleges, Law Colleges, Medical College, College of Dentistry, College of Nursing, School of Social Work and the College of Education. This figure includes 3 Women's Colleges also. These Colleges in Indore and one Degree College in Mhow are affiliated to the newly established University of Indore. The remaining two colleges are the Agricultural College of Indore and Veterinary College of Mhow affiliated to the Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur. Besides these colleges there are two Polytechnics and the Industrial Training Institute. Indore thus provides all the facilities for pursuing higher education. Obviously the libraries of these colleges present variety in their collections. A statistical data pertaining to these libraries as could be obtained is appended herewith.

The Holkar College Library is one of the oldest and foremost library in Indore. The bifurcation of this college in 1961 in two separate institutions, viz., Holkar Science College and Government Arts & Commerce College has affected the library very much. The entire stock was divided in two parts, one mainly of Science books and the other on Humanities and Social Sciences. Both these libraries possess some rare and outstanding books. These libraries are having reading rooms, study circles and research departments, all situated in different places and class rooms. Hence a systematic coordination and integrated library service become very difficult. The Periodicals section of the Holkar Science College was at its peak a couple of years ago, but it has been cut down as a measure of economy imposed in 1966-67 and which still continues.

Another old college library of the city is the Christian College library. Since the college is managed by the Canadian Mission, its library reflects the typical conservative approach in its book collection.

M. G. M. Medical College, Shri Govindram Seksaria Technological Institute, College of Nursing and College of Dentistry have also good libraries which are exclusively devoted to their respective courses of studies and allied subjects.

Libraries of the Girls Colleges, and other up-coming colleges viz., P. M. B. Gujarati College, Government Degree College (Mhow), Govt. Sanskrit College, University College of Education etc. also have their own libraries catering to the needs of their students.

Though the main purview of this article is the Colleges affiliated to the Indore University, mention may be made of the libraries of the Agricultural College of the city and Veterinary College (Mhow) which have some good collection of books and journals in their respective subjects. Apart from these College libraries and of course the newly emerging University library, there are some worth mentioning academic libraries in the city. The Daly College, originally founded for Scions of Indian princely families, has a collection of rare and outstanding books *a la* British taste, and is followed by the Malhar-Ashram Library, another public school.

It has however been observed that in adequacy of funds as well as absence of a clear vision of the effective role the libraries play in the field of education on the part of the authorities has seriously affected the growth of these libraries as also the provision of a good and efficient library service to the teachers and taughts. The libraries lack good accommodation as well as latest library techniques. More to add, this has affected the library personnel also. Inadequate staff with no or least technical assistance and poor pay-scales have an adverse effect on their enthusiasm and efficiency. Due recognition of the Librarian's status as a trained technician with appropriate pay scales will inspire the library personnel to work wholeheartedly and vigorously. Ultimately it badly affects the students community also which is becoming restless over the inadequacy of library services.

Recently the Vice-Chancellor of the Indore University paid visits to academic libraries of the affiliated Colleges and suggested some improvements. It is to be hoped that the authorities and the librarians alike will implement his suggestions as quickly as possible. It is further hoped that the gathering of the eminent and experienced librarians in the city on the occasion of XVII All India Library Conference will provide the Librarians necessary guidance and impetus.

It is expected that an ambitious and model library will soon come up in the city in the form of the University library. The University library will then play the role of a pivotal library which will cater the needs of other academic libraries also for the service of their readers. Thus a net-work of academic libraries will be spread all over Indore by inter-library loan with its nucleus in the University Library in the proposed University Campus and another sub-station in the form of 'Students Home' which houses the University Library at present. A coordination will be effected among all these libraries and the hidden and stored treasures of knowledge will be thrown open to all its readers, whether it may be a student, teacher, researcher or a citizen who is thirsty. Let us hope that this will enable the present as well as coming college libraries to achieve the goal of creating new and healthy traditions in their history.



S. No.	Name of Library	Year of Estt.	Book-Stock					Book Issue		System of Classification	System of Cataloguing
			Hindi	Marathi	English	Other	Total	Annual	Average per day		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1.	The Indore General Library.	1854 Regd.	9,245	12,136	10,530	2,665 G B U	34,576	29,000	100	Decimal	Sheaf
2.	Victoria Library	1887 Regd.	638	49	2,259	223 G U	3,169	1,500	6	Broad Subjectwise.	Sheaf.
3.	Maharashtra Sahitya Sabha Library	1915 Regd.	450	15,100	250	100 S	15,900	13,000	45	—do—	—do—
4.	Madhya Bharat Hindi Sahitya Samiti—Dr. Sarju Prasad Pustakalaya	1918 Regd.	13,000	—	—	—	13,000	8,000	25	—do—	—do—
5.	Shri Mahesh Sarvajanic Vachanalaya & Granthalaya.	1928 Regd.	7,424	36	424	115 G S	7,999	17,000	60	—do—	—do—
6.	Shri Pratap Granthalaya.	1934 Regd.	689	2,851	2,034	—	5,574	7,000	20	—do—	—do—
7.	@Veer Sarvajanic Vachanalaya	1935 Regd.	8,695	—	—	—	8,695	12,965	40	—do—	—do—
8.	@Shri Pratap Sarvajanic Pustakalaya tatha Vachanalaya	1936 Regd.	4,660	—	—	—	4,660	12,000	40	—	—
9.	Workers Institute Library.	1960 Regd.	7,680	10	310	—	8,000	11,745	50	Decimal	DC & Cards
10.	The Indore Municipal Corp. Library	1960 Regd.	7,582	980	782	—	9,344	29,000	100	Broad Subject	Sheaf.
11.	Shri Ahilya Central Library	1961	9,106	24	8,211	323 S	17,666	23,500	91	Colon.	CC & Cards
1.	*Matoshri Kasturba Gujarati Vachanalaya tatha Pustakalaya	1924	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2.	@Pratap Jain Vachanalaya	1932 Non-Regd.	5,000	—	—	—	5,000	—	—	—	—
3.	@Shramik Vachanalaya	1949 Non-Regd.	10,668	—	—	—	10,668	13,400	42	—	—
4.	*Vijayeshwar Mahadeo Vachanalaya.	— Regd.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5.	@Hansdas Hindi Pustakalaya.	1950 Regd.	1,018	—	—	—	1,018	2,500	12	—	—
6.	@Janta Vachanalaya.	1955	1,193	—	—	—	1,193	402	2	—	Sheaf
7.	@Kanyakubja Sarvajanic Vachanalaya	1956 Regd.	1,500	—	—	—	1,500	—	—	—	—

\*The data was not available.

@The data is not up-to-date and needs verification.

G Gujarati

B Bengali

U Urdu

# INFORMATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

System of Classification	System of Cataloguing	Issue System	No. of Periodicals	Average Attendance per day.	Membership of the library	Subscription/Deposit Library	Annual income	Annual Expenditure				
								Books	Periodicals	Others	Staff Estt.	Total
11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
Decimal	Sheaf	Borrower's Card.	70	130	1,500	S/D	17,700/-	3,000/-	2,000/-	5,000/-	7,700/-	17,700/-
Broad Subjectwise.	Sheaf.	Register	15	15	60	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	300/-
—do—	—do—	—do—	56	55	580	S/D	8,635/-	1,500/-	750/-	400/-	600/-	3,250/-
—do—	—do—	Borrower's Card	100	100	400	Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	3,000/-
—do—	—do—	Register	55	200	289	S/D	4,200/-	1,000/-	1,000/-	540/-	660/-	3,200/-
—do—	—do—	Register	8	50	99	S/D	1,000/-	500/-	100/-	100/-	300/-	1,000/-
—do—	—do—	Register	84	—	295	—	5,825/-	—	2,200/-	1,600/-	2,000/-	5,800/-
—	—	Register	70	190	450	S/D	3,700/-	—	—	—	—	4,100/-
Decimal	% Cards	Ticket system, Open access	37	41	1,320	Deposit.	—	2,500/-	1,200/-	500/-	6,000/-	10,200/-
Broad Subjectwise	Sheaf.	—	—	—	1,410	—do—	—	5,000/-	—	—	—	5,000/-
Colon.	CC & Cards	Tiket Syscem	112	298	842	Deposit.	—	5,000/-	2,000/-	1,500/-	40,000/-	48,500/-
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	25	90	122	—	800/-	200/-	200/-	400/-	—	800/-
—	—	—	33	100	—	—	975/-	800/-	—	—	—	800/-
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	20	20	200	—	668/-	—	—	—	—	1,125/-
—	Sheaf	—	22	70	36	—	266/-	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	3	15	50	—	400/-	100/-	30/-	470/-	—	600/-

# PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Subscription/ Deposit Library	Annual income	Annual Expenditure					Staff		Remarks.
		Books	Periodicals	Others	Staff Estt.	Total	Trained	Un-trained	
17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.	24.	25.	26.
S/D	17,700/-	3,000/-	2,000/-	5,000/-	7,700/-	17,700/-	—	13	Private-Govt. aided. Board of Trustees & Managing Committees elected by members. Owns building. Mostly part-time staff.
Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	300/-	—	2	Private-No Govt. grant for last 2 years.
/D	8,635/-	1,500/-	750/-	400/-	600/-	3,250/-	—	2	Under the management of the Sabha. Owns bldg. Free library for children. Some rare books of 19th Century.
Nil.	—	—	—	—	—	3,000/-	—	—	Under the management of the Samiti.
/D	4,200/-	1,000/-	1,000/-	540/-	660/-	3,200/-	—	2	Private-Govt. aided. Rented Building. Part-time Staff. Mainly for adult workers.
/D	1,000/-	500/-	100/-	100/-	300/-	1,000/-	—	2	Managed by Kshatriya Dhanagar Sewa Sangh.
—	5,825/-	—	2,200/-	1,600/-	2,000/-	5,800/-	—	—	Private-Govt. aided
/D	3,700/-	—	—	—	—	4,100/-	—	—	Private-Possesses rare manuscripts on Jainism.
Deposit.	—	2,500/-	1,200/-	500/-	6,000/-	10,200/-	1	2	Managed by the Workers' Institute. For Workers only.
do—	—	5,000/-	—	—	—	5,000/-	1	2	Managed by the Indore Municipal Corporation.
Deposit.	—	5,000/-	2,000/-	1,500/-	40,000/-	48,500/-	2	12	Govt. of M.P., Education Department. UNESCO Information Centre.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Managed by the Gujarati Samaj.
—	800/-	200/-	200/-	400/-	—	800/-	—	—	Private.
—	975/-	800/-	—	—	—	800/-	—	—	Private.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Private.
—	668/-	—	—	—	—	1,125/-	—	—	Private.
—	266/-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Private.
—	400/-	100/-	30/-	470/-	—	600/-	—	—	Private.

S. No.	Name of Library	Year of		*Annual Budget			Number of books	Scheme of Classification
		Estt.	Books	Periodicals	Library accessories etc.	Total		
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.
1.	Indore Christian College†	1880	7,800/-	2,000/-	7,200/-	17,000/-	22,856	Dewey Decimal
2.	Δ Holkar Science College, ‡ (Previously known as Holkar College)	1891	—	—	—	—	—	—do—
3.	College of Agriculture§	1924	15,000/-	5,000/-	—	20,000/-	2,846 (college section) 2,071 (IPI Section)	—do—
4.	@M.G.M. Medical College†	1948	—	—	—	—	11,924	—do—
5.	P.M.B. Gujarati College†	1951	—	—	—	—	9,521	—do— (Partly)
6.	Shri Govindram Sakseria Tech. Institute†	1953	—	—	—	10,000/-	9,566	Dewey Decimal & UDC
7.	College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandary, Mhow§	1955	50,000/-	12,000/-	6,000/-	68,000/-	8,141	Colon Classification
8.	Δ Govt. Girls Degree College†	1956	—	—	—	—	—	—
9.	Govt. Degree College, Mhow†	1958	10,000/-	—	—	10,000/-	8,240	Dewey Decimal
10.	College of Nursing†	1960	—	—	—	5,000/- to 8,000/-	2,500	Subjectwise
11.	Govt. Arts & Commerce College† (Previously known as Holkar College from 1891 to 1960)	1961	50,000/-	10,000/-	5,000/-	65,000/-	53,716	Dewey Decimal
12.	@Govt. Sanskrit College†	1961	—	—	—	—	7,000	Colon Classification
13.	College of Dentistry†	1961	5,000/-	3,000/-	—	8,000/-	1,177	Dewey Decimal
14.	Δ Govt. Music College†	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—
15.	Δ Shri Jain Sangeet Vidyalaya†	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—
16.	Δ Govt. New Girls' Degree College†	1963	—	—	—	—	—	—
17.	Indore University Library	1964	1,61,000/-	4,000/-	2,000/-	1,67,000/-	24,936	Dewey Decimal
18.	Δ Islamia Karimia Degree College†	1964	—	—	—	—	—	—
19.	University College of Education†	1965	—	—	—	—	1,530	Dewey Decimal
20.	Devi Ahilya Girls' Degree College†	1965	4,100/-	500/-	—	4,600/-	2,479	—
21.	Δ Rajkumar Singh Ayurvedic College†	1965	—	—	—	—	—	—

4. @M.G.M. Medical College†	1948	—	—	—	—	11,924	—do—
5. P.M.B. Gujarati College†	1951	—	—	—	—	9,521	—do— (Partly)
6. Shri Govindram Sakseria Tech. Institute‡	1953	—	—	—	10,000/-	9,566	Dewey Decimal & UDC
7. College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandary, Mhow§	1955	50,000/-	12,000/-	6,000/-	68,000/-	8,141	Colon Classification
8. ΔGovt. Girls Degree College†	1956	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Govt. Degree College, Mhow†	1958	10,000/-	—	—	10,000/-	8,240	Dewey Decimal
10. College of Nursing†	1960	—	—	—	5,000/- to 8,000/-	2,500	Subjectwise
11. Govt. Arts & Commerce College‡ (Previously known as Holkar College from 1891 to 1960)	1961	50,000/-	10,000/-	5,000/-	65,000/-	53,716	Dewey Decimal
12. @Govt. Sanskrit College†	1961	—	—	—	—	7,000	Colon Classification
13. College of Dentistry†	1961	5,000/-	3,000/-	—	8,000/-	1,177	Dewey Decimal
14. ΔGovt. Music College†	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—
15. ΔShri Jain Sangeet Vidyalaya†	1961	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. ΔGovt. New Girls' Degree College†	1963	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Indore University Library	1964	1,61,000/-	4,000/-	2,000/-	1,67,000/-	24,936	Dewey Decimal
18. ΔIslamia Karimia Degree College†	1964	—	—	—	—	—	—
19. University College of Education‡	1965	—	—	—	—	1,530	Dewey Decimal
20. Devi Ahilya Girls' Degree College†	1965	4,100/-	500/-	—	4,600/-	2,479	—
21. ΔRajkumar Singh Ayurvedic College†	1965	—	—	—	—	—	—
22. ΔShri Krishna Music College†	1965	—	—	—	—	—	—
23. ΔIndore School of Social Work†	1966	—	—	—	—	—	—
24. ΔVaishnav Arts & Comm. College†	1967	—	—	—	—	—	—

\*The figures given under Annual Budget are mostly for current year; these vary every year.

@The data is not uptodate and needs verification.

ΔThe data is not received.

# 80 INFORMATION REGARDING COLLEGE LIBRARIES

Annual Budget		Number of books	Scheme of Classification	System of Cataloguing	Form of catalogue followed	Issue system	Average daily issue	Number	
Library accessories etc.	Total							News papers	Academic periodicals
6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.
7,200/-	17,000/-	22,856	Dewey Decimal	Classified Catalogue	Sheaf	Borrower's card	100	9	61
—	—	—	—do—	—do—	—	—	—	—	—
—	20,000/-	2,846 (college section) 2,071 (IPI Section)	—do—	—	Sheaf	Ticket	65	4	40
—	—	11,924	—do—	ALA	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	9,521	—do— (Partly)	Subjectwise list	Partly card and partly register catalogue	Borrower's card.	58	12	4
—	10,000/-	9,566	Dewey Decimal & UDC	Author, title & subject catalogue (separate)	Card Catalogue	—do—	100	—	—
6,000/-	68,000/-	8,141	Colon Classification	Classified Catalogue	—do—	Ticket	29	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	10,000/-	8,240	Dewey Decimal	Classified Catalogue (Main card)	Card Catalogue	Borrower's Card	50	7	9
—	5,000/- to 8,000/-	2,500	Subjectwise	Alphabetical	—do—	—do—	60	2	15
5,000/-	65,000/-	53,716	Dewey Decimal	Author	Card & Sheaf	—do—	300	19	131
—	—	7,000	Colon Classification	Classified Catalogue	—	—	—	—	—
—	8,000/-	1,177	Dewey Decimal	ALA	Register	Register	20	—	30
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2,000/-	1,67,000/-	24,936	Dewey Decimal	Classified Catalogue	Card Catalogue	Ticket system	20	14	113
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
—	—	1,530	Dewey Decimal	—	Register	Register	25%	—	13
—	4,600/-	2,479	—	Classified Catalogue	Register	Borrower's Card	50	3	6

	—	—	11,924	—do—	ALA	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	9,521	—do— (Partly)	Subjectwise list	Partly card and partly register catalogue	Borrower's card.	58	12	4
	—	10,000/-	9,566	Dewey Decimal & UDC	Author, title & subject catalogue (separate)	Card Catalogue	—do—	100	—	—
00/-	6,000/-	68,000/-	8,141	Colon Classification	Classified Catalogue	—do—	Ticket	29	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	10,000/-	8,240	Dewey Decimal	Classified Cata- logue (Main card)	Card Catalogue	Borrower's Card	50	7	9
	—	5,000/- to 8,000/-	2,500	Subjectwise	Alphabetical	—do—	—do—	60	2	15
0/-	5,000/-	65,000/-	53,716	Dewey Decimal	Author	Card & Sheaf	—do—	300	19	131
	—	—	7,000	Colon Classification	Classified Catalogue	—	—	—	—	—
0/-	—	8,000/-	1,177	Dewey Decimal	ALA	Register	Register	20	—	30
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
00/-	2,000/-	1,67,000/-	24,936	Dewey Decimal	Classified Catalogue	Card Catalogue	Ticket system	20	14	113
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	1,530	Dewey Decimal	—	Register	Register	25%	—	13
00/-	—	4,600/-	2,479	—	Classified Catalogue	Register	Borrower's Card	50	3	6
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

r; these vary every year.

IPI Institute of Plant Industry

‡Constituent College

△The data is not received.

†Colleges affiliated to the University of Indore.

§Colleges affiliated to

# OF INDORE & MHOW

Periodicals		Average Daily Atten- dance	Member- ship of Library	Staff			Remarks  (Special features)
General Periodicals	Total			Tech. Staff	Non- Tech.	Total	
16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21.	22.	23.
30	100	300	6	1 Librarian (250-460) Rev.	—	1	MA Sectional Lib. Law Library. UGC Text Book Lib.
—	—	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	Dept. Libraries.
6	60	80	118	1 Librarian (190-300)	3	4	5144 bound volumes of Scientific and Technical Journals.
—	—	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	20,000 volumes of Journals.
35	51	150	1,650	1 Librarian (190-300) 1 Asstt. Librarian (90-170)	4	6	
—	75	200	1,000	1 Librarian (250-450)	4	5	2000 back vol. of journals. Jawaharlal Nehru Book Bank of 300 books. M.B. board of Secondary Education Text—book collection for sons & daughters of teachers of the Instt. (200 books) Library hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
—	—	112	225	1 Librarian (190-300)	3	4	1846 Back Journals. 6100 Technical Bulletins Pamphlets, Reports etc. Microfilms, Photo-State copies of Manuscripts & Theses. Micro-film readers. Prepared a "Union Catalogue of Tech- nical Periodicals in Indian Veterinary College Libraries" and "Bibliography of Select Veterinary Periodicals." Library Assignment periods. Library hours from 7 a.m. to 10 p. m.
—	—	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	
5	51	—	583	1 Librarian (190-320)	4	5	Text Book Library.
—	19	35	40	(A Sr. Sister Tutor & a staff nurse— are assigned this duty)	—	—	Serving the students of School of Nursing also.
—	235	500	1,604	1 Librarian (190-300) 1 Asstt. Librarian (110-190)	12	14	Post Graduate Research Department.
—	22	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	600 Manuscripts.
—	30	30	104	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	181	100	750	1 Asstt. Librarian (360-700) 3 Tech. Asstt. (190-320) 1 Jr. Tech. Asstt. (160-250) 2 Counter Asstt. (115-220)	15	22	Rotary Nehru Memorial Library. Students Home Reading Room—A Text—Book Collection. Muley Library—A Collection of Rare Books. Shri R. C. Jall Text Book Library in offing.
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	19	50%	144	1 Librarian (160-250)	1	2	
—	17	190	211	1 Part—time Librarian (Rs. 50 per month.)	1	2	
—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

—	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	20,000 volumes of Journals.
51	150	1,650	1 Librarian (190-300) 1 Asstt. Librarian (90-170)	4	6	
75	200	1,000	1 Librarian (250-450)	4	5	2000 back vol. of journals. Jawaharlal Nehru Book Bank of 300 books. M.B. board of Secondary Education Text—book collection for sons & daughters of teachers of the Instt. (200 books). Library hours from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
—	112	225	1 Librarian (190-300)	3	4	1846 Back Journals. 6100 Technical Bulletins, Pamphlets, Reports etc. Microfilms, Photo-State copies of Manuscripts & Theses. Micro-film readers. Prepared a "Union Catalogue of Technical Periodicals in Indian Veterinary College Libraries" and "Bibliography of Select Veterinary Periodicals." Library Assignment periods. Library hours from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.
—	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	
51	—	583	1 Librarian (190-320)	4	5	Text Book Library.
19	35	40	(A Sr. Sister Tutor & a staff nurse—are assigned this duty)	—	—	Serving the students of School of Nursing also.
235	500	1,604	1 Librarian (190-300) 1 Asstt. Librarian (110-190)	12	14	Post Graduate Research Department.
22	—	—	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	600 Manuscripts.
30	30	104	1 Librarian (190-300)	—	1	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
—	—	—	—	—	—	
181	100	750	1 Asstt. Librarian (360-700) 3 Tech. Asstt. (190-320) 1 Jr. Tech. Asstt. (160-250) 2 Counter Asstt. (115-220)	15	22	Rotary Nehru Memorial Library. Students Home Reading Room—A Text—Book Collection. Muley Library—A Collection of Rare Books. Shri R. C. Jail Text Book Library in offing.
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19	50%	144	1 Librarian (160-250)	1	2	
17	190	211	1 Part—time Librarian (Rs. 50 per month.)	1	2	
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the problems

# LIBRARY MOVEMENT ITS BACKGROUND AND THE BEGINNING IN INDIA

BY

N. C. CHAKRAVARTY



The story of literature and libraries in India is shrouded in as much mystery as the hoary history of this ancient land. It follows the history of the rise and fall of civilizations from time immemorial running through the conflicts and amity of races and cultures that met here to make India what it is today. Though Sanskrit, the highly developed language of the learned could never become the language of the common man yet it continued to stimulate and enrich the growing regional languages, like, Hindi, Bengali, Asamese, Maithili, Oriya, Marathi, Gujarati, Punjabi, Urdu, and a host of other languages and dialects which were its direct descendants, and in addition, it continued to influence extensively the Dravidian group of Indian languages e.g. Malayalam, Kannada, Telugu and Tamil. The Vedas, the Upanishadas, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the stories of the Jatakas and Hitopadeshas, the works of Kalidasa and other Sanskrit writers provided the inspiration and themes of almost all works in modern Indian languages till Indians had their first acquaintance with English and Continental literatures only towards the beginning of the nineteenth century. We need hardly go here into details of the comparatively dark days we passed through during the preceding few centuries before we came into abiding contact with modern western civilization of which, among other things, the Library Movement is an important product.

Invention of printing from movable types in Europe towards the middle of the fifteenth century was of stupendous importance for propagation of the Library Movement in the continent. It was the Portuguese who set up the first printing press on the soil of India, in the west coast. "The art of Printing had come to India in 1556, to Goa on the western coast. If we study the early history of printing in India we find that the art of printing and type cutting travelled south-

wards along the west coast, passing through Quilon and Cochin; then rounding the southern tip of the land it moved northwards along the east coast until it came to Tranquebar in the 18th century. Later it continued its journey along the coast until it finally reached the northernmost point of the coast in Bengal towards the close of the 18th century. It was in Bengal that the art made its fullest development." (Katharine S. Diehe & H. K. Sircar-Early Indian Imprints, pp 63-64). The apostle of the art of printing in India was William Carey, the first English Baptist missionary to Bengal who was a botanist and a person of extraordinary calibre and ingenuity. He was the chief of the Serampore Brethren and served as Professor of Sanskrit, Bengali and Marathi at the College of Fort William where the East India Company's British Officers were trained. He himself translated many books in different languages and wrote innumerable original treatises and articles. In any cultural history of modern India reference to Carey's contributions must occupy an honoured place. About his contributions in developing the art of printing it is recorded, "The earliest Press in India was operating in the middle of the 16th century, and one cannot but wonder at the long time it took for development of printing in India: it was more than two hundred years before the printing press was really popular and fully productive... Before the advent of Carey no one had the initiative and courage to try type-cutting and type-casting in all the languages and alphabets. Carey was determined to provide all Indians with the word of God in their own languages. In about twenty-five years he accomplished what his predecessors had failed to do in 250 years". The (Serampore Missionaries) Tenth Memoir respecting the translations (1834) records, "Printing had been done by that time at Serampore in forty seven languages, for about forty of which types had been cast at Serampore. Serampore had also become the source of supply for the entire country in the matter of types and soon presses were started everywhere." The accounts of the amazingly great amount of pioneering work done continuously for several decades through all sorts of privations, disasters and discomfort in extremely uncongenial surroundings by this British missionary-linguist botanist, Dr. William Carey make one of the most thrilling saga of the invisible spirit of modern man for progress. The debt that the modern Indian languages owe to Dr. Carey is great indeed.

It was about a century ago that the modern library movement gathered momentum almost simultaneously in U.K. and U.S.A. The beginning of the movement in U. K. is recorded as follows:—

"At the beginning of the nineteenth century there were no public libraries in England and Wales, apart from those attached to Cathedrals and colleges and a small number of parish libraries and scattered libraries endowed as charities. Few of these were open to all comers, and some contained only classical and theological works. The state of education was such that there was little demand for anything more, and many persons viewed with alarm the dangers of unrestricted access by the people to knowledge and opinions of all sorts. The demand for public libraries arose as part of the campaign of the Philosophic Radicals for a national system of education led by Bentham, Brougham and Place, they tried to establish a general system of schools throughout the country. They failed in this, but did succeed in stimulating the growth of adult education, particularly through the founding of Mechanic's Institutes in the industrial towns. From this movement of popular education grew the demand for libraries, which should provide books free of charge to the artisans of the towns and labourers of the villages.

"In 1850 William Ewart succeeded, against considerable opposition, in getting a Bill through Parliament allowing any borough with a population of over 10,000 to establish a free library. The decision to do so had to be taken by a two-thirds majority of the local government electors, and could involve no more than the expenditure of a halfpenny rate on the building, furnishing and operation of the library. The books themselves, it was assumed would be presented by generous benefactors." (Report of the Roberts Committee appointed by the Minister of Education. London, H.M.S.O. Cmd. 660 1959. p 2.). It was a very long and uphill journey towards progress since the first legislation was passed in 1850. The British Library Association was founded in 1877, 27 years after the passing of the first library law in the country. It took the Association 21 years more to obtain Royal Charter of incorporation in 1898; or in other words, 21 years hard work was necessary for the Association to get the official recognition to operate in the field of its interest. Thereafter it was again a story of persistent hard work for many years before any appreciable progress could be made. The munificence of Andrew Carnegie (British by birth and American by domicile), who between 1897 and 1913 gave nearly two milllion pounds for providing capital cost of building libraries, came as the most timely help to sustain the library movement in U. K.

"Under the stimulus of the Library Association and of the Carnegie Trustees—who helped in the foundation of the school of Librarianship at University College, London (in 1919)—a change began in the position of librarians. Formerly their work had been regarded as suitable for untrained clerks with bookish interests. Now Librarianship was developing into a full profession with carefully controlled qualifications and membership. Meanwhile the attitude to public libraries was slowly altering, they were coming to be regarded less as a means of providing occupation for the leasure of artisans, and more as an important part of the education of the citizen.... This new view of the function of libraries found expression in the reports of the Adult Education Committee of the Ministry of Reconstruction in 1919, which recommended that the local education authority for higher education should in all cases be made responsible for the library service. This envisaged the rural library, provided by the country council, becoming the nucleus of a village institute similar in many respects to the community centre of today. This development, they suggested, should be facilitated by the abolition of the limit of a penny rate, and by grants in aid from the Exchequer." (Roberts Committee Report, p. 3.)."

If we examine the progress of the library movement in U. S. A. we shall find that it also covers almost the same period and follows more or less parallel lines of development. To start with, the movement in U. S. A. had the same objective of "providing occupation for the leisure of articians" as in U. K. In fact in the new world people of different national and cultural affinities flocked in separate groups because till then they could not weld themselves in a national and cultural entity. The social order and ethics were not strong enough to restrain a large number of immigrants from indulging in evil practices particularly when life was so full of uncertainty and adventure in the land of their adoption with such vast natural resources. The philanthropists and social leaders of thought seriously took up the challenge and launched various educational and remedial measures to combat the social evils. T. P. Quincy, one of the pioneers of the library movement in U. S. A. while speaking of its benefits said. "Even persons of local respectability, having nowhere else to go, were wont to stray in and stupefy themselves into endurance of the vulgar jests of the barkeeper and the chorus of brutal talk that must prevail when whisky

is abundant and women are left out. . . . Now, however, instead of the barkeeper and his satellites we find modest and pleasing young women disbursing books over the counter." James Howard Weillard of Chicago University spoke of public libraries as follows:—"The public library, then, was the democratic and humanitarian remedy for ignorance, degeneracy, inebriety and all social sores which offended the moral consciousness of liberal-minded people." "Beer or Books" was a slogan with the pioneers of the movement in U.S.A. The social conditions in U.S.A. have since changed beyond recognition and the public libraries today are intended for creative participation in the community life of one of the most advanced societies that the country has fostered. Upto this day U. K. and U. S. A. have maintained their leadership in public library movement in the world. The traditions and techniques of library service developed in these countries serve as great sources of inspiration and guidance for many countries these days.

The library movement in U. K. greatly influenced the promoters of the Folk High School or People's College movement that started in Denmark about a century ago. They made the Library as an essential and integral part of the peoples' College movement. Subsequently the idea spread to the other two Scandinavian countries also. Public Library services since developed in U. S. S. R. are also very extensive and particularly efficient in their bibliographical and scientific information work. The tremendous progress made in science and technology in recent years has opened up new vistas of knowledge and, this has been possible only because libraries and laboratories abound in countries where such progress has been achieved. The whole world has today understood that Carlyle was perfectly right when he described a library as a University.

We have had above a glimpse of the cultural and literary traditions of India from the earliest time to the beginning of the nineteenth century when circumstances led us to alive contact with the rising tide of the modern western civilization.

Four hundred years ago when gradually the Portuguese, the Dutch, the French and the English established contact with India, the country was already a long way down in its deep descent in political and intellectual life. The fittest of these rising European nations survived in India after bitter contests among themselves and it finally established itself as the lord of the land by overpowering a band of feudal rulers engaged in internecine quarrels throughout the entire Indian sub-continent.

Consequent on the grant of Diwani in 1765 the East India Company virtually became a ruling power in India. But the Company did not take any interest in education of Indians till the Charter Act of 1813 compelled them to accept some responsibility in this behalf. The British Parliament enjoined on the Company to spend on Lakh of rupees one improvement of education in India. A committee of Public Instruction was set up to administer the grant and this Committee made plans to establish and maintain a Sanskrit College in Calcutta out of funds from the grant. The great thinker and scholar, Raja Rammonan Roy vehemently protested against the idea and advocated for introduction of teaching of western science through the medium of English. As there was sharp difference of opinion on the issue among the members of the Committee and others in England and in India as well, the great pioneer of modern India went to England to plead for the cause, which alone, he knew as a seer, could save India from being completely written off as a civilised nation. In 1833 he died in Bristol while advocating for

educational and social reforms in India. In 1835 it was decided that "the great object of the British Government ought to be the promotion of English literature and science among the natives of India and that all funds appropriated to education would best be employed in English education alone." Bentinck as Governor-General in India and Macaulay in England supported Raja Rammohan Roy's contention." There can be little doubt that the decision taken in 1835 was one of the turning points of Indian history. It opened the floodgates to European thought and literature and subjected the best brains of India, from their childhood onwards, to the powerful influence of English liberal and scientific thought. Its intellectual effects were profound, and it is no exaggeration to say that India awoke after a long sleep and began to prepare for greatest transformation in her history." (Percival Griffiths. *Modern India*, p. 55). Prof. Humayun Kabir in his "Indian Heritage" remarks "The decision to adopt western modes of education was in such a context momentous. The British took the decision for their own immediate political and commercial ends. Little did they realise that they were sowing the seed of a revolution which has few parallels in history. Macaulay foresaw some of the consequence dimly but even he could not grasp their total implications." (p120). In 1835 another reform of far reaching consequence was introduced. That year Lord Metcalfe, the Acting Governor-General gave the Press Licensing Regulations, reasonable freedom and declared in this context, "If India could be preserved as a part of the British Empire only by keeping its inhabitants in a State of ignorance, our domination would be a curse to the country and ought to cease." (Griffiths-*Modern India*, p. 62) This gave Indians as well as British friends of India the freedom to ventilate through the Press their grievances against the British Rule and also to propagate for educational and social reforms without which progress was impossible.

Wood's Education Despatch of 1854 confirmed the educational policy adopted in 1835. Then appeared on the scene the British officials of the Education Department from 1855 onwards. In 1857 three universities were established at the presidency cities of Calcutta, Madras and Bombay. Thereafter the Christian missionaries, the British Education Officers to start with, and later the latter's Indian counterparts mostly trained in and after the British system of education, devoted themselves to building up the modern system of education that produced in a brief period a class of educated men of great potentiality to reckon with. In 1884 Lord Ripon as Viceroy wrote about this class of people to Lord Kimberley, the then Secretary of State for India as follows:—"You may rely upon it that there are few Indian questions of greater importance in the present day than those which relate to the mode in which we are to deal with the growing body of Natives educated by ourselves in Western learning and Western ideas (Ripon Viceregal Papers, I. S. 290/5. No. 18). However, though the content of education thus introduced was good enough to produce some intellectual gains, of whom any country could be proud. The extent of education was incredibly small. For obvious reasons, the spread of the western system was too slow to fill up the gap created by the receding indigenous systems. After nearly half a century of the establishment of the Presidency universities literacy figure in India stood at 5% in 1905. The common man in the country was steeped in ignorance, social evils and poverty. Demand for reading materials from the common man was almost non-existent, needs of the literates were restricted to religious literature, a few classics and the newly created belles letters and novels, produced in vernaculars by a few English educated writers. The only effective

demand for literature in modern sciences and humanities came from the very few well-educated people who lived in cities in exclusive societies. This was the condition towards the beginning of the twentieth century, a condition that most western countries experienced in the fourteenth and the fifteenth centuries.

However, towards the close of the nineteenth century India could boast of a section of her intellectuals who drank deep at the invigorating springs of western liberal thoughts and ideals of human dignity and freedom. The Indian National Congress, inaugurated in 1885 at the initiative of a retired British member of the Indian Civil Service, Allan Octavian Hume, had by this time prepared itself to assume the role of an effective national political organisation. Leaders like Dadabhai Naoroji, W. C. Bonnerji, Pheroze Shah Mehta, Surendra Nath Banerjee, D. E. Waccha, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Bepin Chandra Pal created an irresistible political consciousness among the people. The great religious and social reform movements initiated by Raja Rammohan Roy, Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar, RamKrishna-Vivekananda order and other pioneers in the field added to the spiritual regeneration and social consciousness of the people. The intellectuals like, R. C. Dutta, M. G. Rande and others educated the people about the dangers of economic exploitation of the country by the alien Government. The literary geniï like, Bankim Chandra Chatterji (Bengali), Manilal Dvivedi (Gujrati), Bharatendu Harishchandra (Hindi), Kempu Narayana (Kannada), Kerala Verma (Malayalam), G. H. Deshmukh (Marathi), Bharti (Tamil), Viresalingam (Telugu) not only enriched and modernised their languages but also breathed life and vigour in them and thus converted them into vehicles to convey powerfully the message of freedom and progress. The nation was made awake and alive to the world outside. In less than 100 years since Woods' Educational Despatch of 1854 India won freedom. After independence we have chosen to adopt western democratic institutions for the progress of the country. Public library is one of the best institutions that western democracy has produced. It is extremely unfortunate that inspite of our age-old traditions of reverence and love for knowledge and literature we have not yet realised the value of the book in the life of the nation engaged in an unprecedented task of development. Consequently, Library Movement in India, as we shall find from the following accounts, has made but little progress during a period of over half a century since its inauguration in this country.

For about sixty years since 1850, the date that we may take as the date of consolidation and formal beginning of the movement in U. K., nothing like a popular Library Movement was known in India. Educational, social and economic backwardness, referred to earlier, accounts for this. The English educated urban population with the support of local British and Indian officials and occasionally with the munificence of local businessmen or landlords did, of course, establish a number of libraries for the benefit of the privileged classes residing mainly in cities. Some of the more enlightend native Princes also maintained palace libraries and libraries in their state capitals. These libraries were for restricted use and they were not public libraries though some of them were used to be known as such. Except a few possessing valuable manuscripts and archives, most of them served as mere lending libraries, the facilities for borrowing books being restricted to certain categories of patrons and subscribers. In some cases the subscribers used to be categorised according to the scale of payments they chose to make. Thus some members could simply make use of the resources of the library within its premises, certain others could

borrow one volume at a time, while a third category could borrow more than one volume at a time according to the scale of subscriptions fixed for different kinds of facilities offered.

The directory of "Libraries in India 1951" issued by the Union Ministry of Education lists nearly 125 so-called public libraries established in different parts of the country upto 1910. The list is not exhaustive, but the particulars recorded therein give us an idea of the nature, contents and scope of services of these libraries. We are reproducing below two typical entries that illustrate the point:—

1. Public Library: Gaya (Bihar); F. op: 1835; Mgt: Private Body: Nature of collection: General; classification: subject-wise and Author-wise: Catalogue: Manuscript, Bound Vol, and Alphabetic Conds. of loan: issued to members only; Working hours p. w.: 36; Closed for 76 days: Total stock: 6,479 (books 6,007 periodical 402s); Adds: 54 books Approximate value of stocks Rs. 50,000; Periodicals recd: 7; Borrowers: 83 Total issues: 1,211; Staff: 3 (cler. 1 attend; 2) Receipts Rs. 1607 (Govt /gr/ Rs. 49. other sources Rs. 1,558); Expend: Rs. 2,173 (Staff Rs. 1,198, books Rs. 359, periodicals and news-papers Rs. 228, other items Rs. 388); Lib: Shri Bankey BehariLall.
2. Amravat Nagar Vachanalaya: Amravati (M. P.); f. and op: 1867; Mgt.; Private Body; Nature of collections: Literary and General: Classification: Subject-wise Catalogue: Manuscript and Classified: closed access: Conds. of Loan Deposit and Monthly Subscription: Working hours p. w. 42: Closed for 67 days: Total stock: 9, 974 (book 8,219, periodicals 100) Approximate value of stocks: Rs. 74,000: Periodicals recd: 64 Borrowers: 359; Total issues: 38,028; Staff; 3 (cler. Receipts: Rs. 6,376 Expend: Rs. 4,922 (staff Rs. 2,204 books Rs. 436, periodical sRs. 600, other items Rs. 1,622); Additional Information: Cultural activities, lectures, by eminent persons; study—lectures for students, Gulabrao Maharaj Trophy elocution and Dr. Bhat Essay annual competitions; Lib: Shri Shankar Trimbak Balekar.

One can easily see from the particulars what stocks of books and services these libraries could offer. A public library established in 1835 received in 1950 Rs. 49/- as annual Government grants and its total receipts amounted to Rs. 1,607 only. It remained closed for 76 days during the year. In fact, taking into consideration the country as a whole, the progress attained by these two so-called public libraries in two different regions during a period of 115 and 83 years truly reflects the measure of the growth of public library services up to 1950.

Dr. A. K. Ohdedar in his work on "The Growth of the Library in Modern India: 1498-1836" provides a well documented account of the establishment of libraries since the year Vasco da Gama's ships touched the shores of India. He leads us through an interesting phase of our cultural renaissance till he reaches the year 1818 approximately when the Calcutta Library Society was formed with the purpose of establishing a library in the city. Recorded evidences show that by 1819 the organisers (proprietors) of the Society had a library which they wished "to make the basis of an extensive and general Public Library", and that the Library possessed 2,700 volumes. The next reference of importance in point of time is the establishment of the Bombay General Library in 1830. We reached the next important stage in 1835. In this year the memorable Press Act (Act XI of 1835) was passed under the benign encouragement of Sir Charles Metcalfe, the then acting Governor-General of India, conferring freedom of expression to Indian Press, mention of which has been made earlier. The leading citizens of Calcutta from among Indians as well as Europeans held a meeting on the 20th August, 1835 and adopted resolutions that read as follows:—

"That a public subscription be opened for the erection of a building, which shall be called the Metcalfe Library, the subject of its erection, to wit, INCOMMORATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE INDIAN PRESS HAVING BEEN RECOGNIZED BY LAW UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF SIR CHARLES THEOPHILUS METACALFE, shall be recorded as a suitable inscription....."

Soon after this decision was taken to construct a building (Metcalfe Hall) that would accomodate a public library. Another meeting of the citizens was held on 31st August, 1835 under the chairmanship of Sir John Pater Grant, a judge of the Supreme Court. A resolution passed in this meeting read as follows:—

"That it is expedient and necessary to establish in Calcutta a Public Library of Reference and Circulation that shall be open to all ranks and classes without distinction, and sufficiently extensive to supply the wants of the entire community in every department of literature."

It was also decided in the meeting that finances for the library shall be found by enrolling proprietors and subscribers. One could become a Proprietor on payment of Rs. 300/- in one or three equal instalments within a period of one year. Subscribers were categorised into three separate classes according to varying scales of payment of fees. Prince Dwarkanath Tagore grandfather of Rabindranath Tagore, became the first Proprietor of the Calcutta Public Library. One can still find the marble bust of the Prince at the entrance of the main building of the National Library at Calcutta which traces its origin to the Calcutta Public Library.

A provisional Committee was appointed to collect funds and books and make all other arrangements to establish the Library. J. H. Stocqueler (his real name being Joachim Heyward Siddons) founder-editor of Englishman, who was mainly responsible for establishing the General Library in Bombay in 1830, became the Secretary of this Committee. Towards the beginning of 1836 the organisers were able to collect as donations nearly 5,000 volumes of printed European books from the Fort William College, that closed down in 1830, and nearly 1,500 more from other donors. Formal opening of the Calcutta Public Library in a private house then occupied by Dr. F. P. Strong, Civil Surgeon of the Twenty-Four Parganas district took place on an auspicious occasion in 1836. The organisers could hardly imagine then that they were laying the foundation of the future National Library of India, the free India that came into its own more than a century after this date.

About the General Public Library of Bombay which was established a few years earlier than this library at Calcutta, Dr. Ohdedar in his book, referred to above records, "To-day nobody appears to know that once there happened to be such a thing as the General Public Library of Bombay. . . . But with the Calcutta Public Library the history is easily traceable . . . . One can follow its chequered career from 1835 until 1903 when it was merged in the Imperial Library, which in its turn became India's National Library in 1948. And in the rare collections of the National Library the legacy of the Calcutta Public Library is still discernible." (P. 158).

By the close of the nineteenth century two more universities, besides the three at Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, were established at Allahabad and Lahore. More brilliant and affluent among the Indian scholars also went over to the United Kingdom for higher education in science, law, medicine and other disciplines and, their number went on increasing as time passed. An

adapted version of the British system of education from the High English School to the University level struck its firm roots in India by that time. The cream of Indian scholars educated at Oxford and Cambridge or at home under eminent teachers took to building up the five university and a few college libraries existing at that time. The British Museum and the Bodleian Libraries made the model for their library world. This trend was given a powerful support by Lord Curzon, the then Governor General and Viceroy, a great British intellectual, when he amalgamated in 1902 the Calcutta Public Library with the Imperial Library that till then met the restricted purpose of serving the day-to-day needs of the administration in the Secretariat. Curzon cast the reorganised Imperial Library after the pattern of the British Museum and to give substance to his ideas and declared policy requisitioned and services of the British expert, John Macfarlane from the British Museum, as the first Librarian of this reorganised Library launched with the objective—“It is intended that it should be a library of reference, a working place for students and a repository of materials for the future historians of India, in which as far as possible, every work written, about India at any time can be seen and read.” Incidentally, Macfarlane was the first modern library expert who took up the stewardship of a library in India. Of course, long before this, learned men like Peary Chand Mitra, renowned as the ‘father of Bengali novel’ and the great orator and scholar, Bepin Chandra Pal, who later became a political leader of note, served as Librarian of the Calcutta Public Library. Macfarlane was succeeded by the great polyglot of India, Dr. Harinath De, who, it is said, studied sixteen foreign and Indian languages up to the Master’s degree level and was still engaged in learning more of them at the time when his life was suddenly cut short at the age of 34 in 1911.

Establishment of the Imperial Library was indeed a landmark in the history of development of modern libraries in India and this completed a phase of the history. A few years after we reached the next phase that witnessed introduction of a regular system of public library service in a measurable scale for the first time in this country.

The concept of free public libraries for the masses was carried to India from U. S. A. as a cherished acquisition by an Indian Prince who paid visits to that country at the turn of the current century. The Prince Sayajirao Gaekwad III of Baroda to whom the honour of introducing modern Library Movement in India is due, was a man of great vision and practical wisdom. His title to this honour is spoken of as follows by Newton Mohun Dutt in his Presidential address at the first All-Asia Educational Conference—Library Section in 1930:—

“The Indian apostle of the Library religion, as you all know, is the son of a Nasik farmer who by good fortune, or rather let us say by the hand of God, was at the early age of 13 raised to the throne of a great Indian State, and who devoted his whole life to the improvement of the people committed to his charge, becoming the pioneer, not only of free and compulsory education, but also of the free public library in India.”

In 1910 the Gaekwad introduced for the first time a public revenue-supported state-wide public library system in India. This, in fact, marked the real beginning of the Library Movement in this country. Thus in 1970 we shall reach the Diamond Jubilee Year of the Movement. The occasion deserve to be celebrated in a befitting manner.



# **LIBRARY PERSONNEL IN INDIA & THEIR PROBLEMS**

*BY*

**Dr. JAGDISH S. SHARMA**

A look at the literature so far written by the Indian librarians on various branches of Library Science will reveal that due attention has not been paid to the problems of the Library personnel. Realizing the importance of this aspect of librarianship, in the month of May, 1967, I suggested to one of the fellow librarians that if better results are desired from the librarians and libraries, this topic may thoroughly be discussed both at the State as well as at National level. Fortunately, this subject was adopted by the U. P. Library Association at its Annual Conference and Seminar held on June 10 and 11, 1967 at the Roorkee University Library. Incidentally I was asked to inaugurate this Conference and seminar which I gladly did.

Later, on my suggestion, the IASLIC also selected this subject as one of the topics of the symposium which was held at Durgapur from October 7 to 9, 1968.

Happily the organizers of the 17th I.L.A. Conference too have adopted this subject as one of the topics for discussion at Indore.

It is a well known fact that for any well organized human activity, the human element involved in it, is most important. Specially in the case of libraries because today they are not merely store houses of books. In fact, they are both the sure media of mass as well as self-education. The most important link between the books and the readers is librarian. If he is a good and efficient worker, he can render efficient and effective library service; if not, he will be of little use to his readers. For a good library service, therefore, efficient, hard-working and devoted band of workers is necessary. The careful selection of qualified staff members as well as the favourable conditions under which they work, are basic considerations in an institution dedicated to public service.

Of course, it matters a lot if a library has got a very valuable selection of books and manuscripts. It is also important if the library building is beautiful and provides all amenities, necessary for a good library service. But if the staff is not qualified and its members are not dedicated to service or they lack cordiality and spirit of public service, beautiful library building and valuable collection will serve no useful purpose. It is, therefore, most essential that library personnel should be of sweet temperament and dedicated to service to readers.

Like the other educational institutions, libraries too have problems of personnel administration and they deserve a close scrutiny if better library service is desired. I say this because, in India the library profession is not so developed as it is developed in other countries of the world. Not long ago libraries were ignored up to the extent that in some cases even misfits in other institutions used to be transferred to libraries. Some educationists are still of the view that since there is very little work to be done in libraries, even handicapped can look after them. Now when the concept of library service is changing day by day, the concept of hiring better library personnel is also gaining ground.

It is heartening to note that the U. G. C. has done a great job in ameliorating the conditions of libraries and library personnel, especially in the universities and colleges. Unlike in the past, better qualified persons are now entering this profession and naturally better library services are provided to readers. However, views on some of the problems which our profession is facing today are submitted below for the consideration of my fellow librarians:

1. Like in other educational institutions, the staff members of the libraries too come from different walks of life and backgrounds. Thus they form a heterogeneous mass. Naturally they project their background and personality in their daily work and sometime they create acute problems in the libraries which are purely personnel. Such persons should be very carefully dealt with, if smooth working in libraries is desired.
2. The question of poor pay scales of library personnel is much to do with administrative problems. If the pay scales of librarians are better, naturally better qualified persons will enter this profession and better library service is desired from them. But if the pay scales are poorer naturally people with lower ability and calibre will take up librarianship and no better library service can be expected from them. The U. G. C. has already taken up this issue to the advantage of the University and college libraries but the case of public librarians is yet to be taken up by the Union and State Governments.
3. The service conditions too have greatly to do with the problems of personnel and the smooth running of libraries. Maximum efforts, therefore, should be made to provide better service conditions to librarians.
4. One of the acute problems that deserves serious consideration is the entrance of ladies into this profession. If you look at the statistics of admissions of the various library schools in India, you will find that more than fifty per cent candidates are ladies. After all, suitable jobs are to be made available to them. It has been pointed out by many experienced librarians in various libraries where ladies are employed that they pose problems of various types. Some of their problems are so acute that even the ladies have no control over them and in spite of the best efforts both on the part of the lady workers and the administration, smooth working of library is bound to be disrupted by availing maternity leave from three to six months. Some unmarried ladies pose another types of problems for administration which require careful handling.

Longer library service hours also create administrative difficulties for lady workers. However, efficient lady librarians take up their evening duty happily but in the cases of those who stay at a long distance from the library naturally hesitate to go home alone at 9 p. m.

5. In this period of transition through which our profession is passing today, plenty of highly qualified personnel holding M. Lib. Sc. degrees are available. If in a Library where the Chief Librarian and his senior colleagues only hold a certificate or diploma they generally do not see eye to eye to their junior colleagues who possess better professional qualifications. This conflict leads to perpetual tussle among them which disrupts the smooth working of a library. It has also been noticed that those who possess merely a short term training certificate in library science, they in an attempt of getting higher posts of responsibility in the profession, sometimes state wrong facts about their qualifications. Such things naturally are neither good for them nor for the profession.
6. Another important point which deserves attention is the existing system of promotions. Sometimes seniority is determined by the date of joining service, and not by the efficient work and higher qualifications. When the promotions are made only by seniority and not by qualifications, it naturally affects the efficiency of the work in a library. It also leads to a constant grouse amongst those who possess long experience but lag in professional qualifications and those who have higher professional qualifications but lag experience.
7. The last but not the least important point which either directly or indirectly reflects seriously upon the personnel problems in libraries, is the adoption of two main schemes of classification. It has been invariably noticed all over the country that the followers of two schools of thought, while supporting their benefactors continue to launch perpetual struggle against each other. Such kind of fruitless and aimless race for power and supremacy has resulted in chaos and serious conflicts in various libraries in our country.

It has been noticed that certain libraries have adopted some difficult and complicated schemes of library classification and the readers have been experiencing lot of difficulties in finding their desired materials easily.

In the interest of readers and smooth working of libraries, it is, therefore, recommended that the librarians all over the country should decide once for all to adopt a scheme of classification which is easily understood and followed by the users of all types of libraries. This naturally will solve automatically many problems of library administration and readers will be able to make maximum use of literature.

While concluding I have to submit that we live in the land of problems and libraries form a part of this land. We cannot solve the personnel problems of librarians until we solve the problems of our society. However, we can run our libraries smoothly and efficiently if we fully understand the human factors involved in it, and do our jobs honestly and efficiently.

I further recommend that the U. G. C. recommendations contained in a recent publication entitled "*Development of Library Facilities in Universities and Colleges*" (1968) should be implemented with immediate effect if better library service is desired.

# PROBLEMS FACING THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

*By*

S. BASHIRUDDIN

Indore may well be proud of having the distinction of playing host, for the second time, to the Indian Library Association for its 17th Conference, and no wonder when its young University has a Vice-Chancellor who is not only an educationist of standing and experience but a genuine patron of libraries and librarianship. May be librarianship was his first love and education lured him away at some unguarded moment. Even so, Mr. K. L. Joshi has always had a soft corner for libraries and librarianship. We librarians are beholden to him for extending the ILA invitation to meet at Indore. Our memories are fresh of the encouragement we received from him when he was Secretary of the University Grants Commission whenever we approached him for help in our difficulties. We are confident we will profit by his maturity of judgments and wise leadership in our deliberations on professional issues at our conference.

A University librarian for decades, my interest naturally centres in problems which surround university librarians in the country today. Thanks to the University Grants Commission, we received unparalleled encouragements from it in respect of reorganising our libraries to meet the demands of higher education with new buildings, enlarged book-collections and better staff. I make bold to say that in no other developing-or developed country in the wide world has its University Grants Commission or any other authority concerned with the advancement of university education has been more generous than ours in this connection, with the result that without having to pass through lengthy agonising teething period we find ourselves on the threshold of adolescence. Spacious new buildings, large book grants, and academic status and scales of salaries on par with university teachers may be cited as noteworthy features of this generosity. More than this, with befitting foresight the University Grants Commission encouraged universities to start professional schools for the training of librarians for the effective management of the new libraries.

But all this to its credit, the University Grants Commission has not, unfortunately maintained its tempo of support as the libraries began to grow with expansion in the universities' main activities, namely, teaching and research. To be more specific I submit :

Firstly, grants for additional shelf and reading space and equipment are not forthcoming to meet the increasing pressure on the existing space in our libraries as a result of almost doubling

of annual book intakes, rapid rise in students enrolment and ever expanding additions of new topics in research in the different disciplines in the faculties and the introduction of new courses of studies.

On this issue the conference should recommend a ten-yearly assessment of space requirements of university libraries by the University Grants Commission with necessary action to follow where necessary.

Secondly the annual recurrent grants for books and periodicals allocated to the libraries out of the bloc grants received by the universities from the University Grants Commission fall far short of the steadily increasing demands from the faculties for expensive books and scientific journals as the former naturally like to explore new areas of knowledge. Nor are rising costs of books and never-ending and unpredictable rise in periodicals subscriptions taken into account while making these grants. I would like to quote here what a reviewer in the *Times Literary Supplement* on the latest (1967) report of the United Kingdom University Grants Committee on libraries has to say:—

“In the conflicting pressures which arise out of the universities for a share of the UGC bloc grants, the libraries are being unwisely allowed to go to the wall. The pressures that have been felt in recent years have included in particular the constant demands of scientific departments of more expensive research staff and equipment, the need to provide for growing numbers of postgraduate students, and since the Robbins Report of 1963, the urgent requirements for increased numbers of undergraduates. In the face of such pressure within each university the library has often become a Cinderella.”

A more vivid and telling picture of conditions obtaining in India than what the reviewer as depicted above cannot be produced.

I suggest that the Conference draw the attention of the universities to the need always of matching their annual recurrent book grants to the libraries to the expansions which take place in teaching and research in the faculties.

As for the third and the most important of library essentials namely, its staff, it is difficult to explain why the UGC has taken the decision to withhold the revision in the salary scales of university library staff who satisfy the conditions laid down by it and by adding a new category called “Professional Assistants” on Rs. 250-400 even to persons with the necessary academic and professional qualifications. This measure on the part of the UGC, I humbly submit, has dealt a most severe blow to the encouraging signs of attracting young men and women of higher academic attainments supported by adequate professional qualifications. The result, as could be expected, is that we are again attracting, by and large, academic misfits who seek refuge in librarianship for employment when they find every other door to improve their qualifications closed. To quote from the above referred to United Kingdom University Grants Committee report again:—

“Salary scales of graduate library staff with comparable qualifications should in all universities be equated with those of academic staff.”

One often feels shocked to hear persons who should know better question the justification of the above sound recommendation of the Parry report saying that the library staff does not deserve the status and emoluments of university staff as it does not do research. My humble submission to such well-meaning questioners is that a modern library needs a personnel which will help the professors and scholars in their research and such a personnel cannot be had unless it receives the same salaries as the professors, reader and lecturers.

The Conference should therefore urge upon our University Grants Commission to no longer withhold the revision of the scales of the salaries of the university library staff on par with those of the university teachers at different levels.

To end, I shall quote the oft-quoted extract from the University Grants Committee Report of Great Britain for 1921 which says:—

“The character of and efficiency of a university may be gauged by its treatment of its central organisation—the library. We regard the fullest provision for library maintenance as the primary and most vital need in the equipment of a university.”



# LANGUAGE PROBLEM IN THE LIBRARY

By

N. M. KETKAR

A library is a service agency which acquires and organizes reading material for the use of readers. One of the characteristics of reading material is its availability in several languages. Several readers know more than one language and desire to read books and periodicals in more than one language. All persons today who have received college education fully or partially are necessarily bilingual. They know English as well as their mother tongue. People who live in border areas of two contiguous states in each of which a different language prevails are generally bilingual or even tri-lingual if they have learnt English in school, college or Universities. Historical reasons have also made large sections of our population bi-lingual, for instance, many people in North India know Hindi and Urdu. Partition of the country, subsequent industrialization, growth of transport facilities have resulted into population migration on a temporary or even permanent basis thus changing the language complex of different areas particularly of big cities. As illiteracy reduces and education expands, not only the number of library users will grow, but their needs for reading material in more than one language will grow equally. One of the significant results of the three language formula will be that in a couple of decades a very large section of our population will be tri-lingual and may be more multilingual for reasons of migration due to business or career. In other words, in the years to come an increasingly multilingual population will press for reading facilities in the languages in which they have ability and interest and the libraries of all types but particularly public libraries will have to cope with this demand. All libraries therefore, will eventually become multilingual libraries even though they might have started as unilingual as far as their book stock is concerned. The book production in each of our languages is growing pretty fast and there will not be any dearth of suitable books for any reader in any of our languages.

In such a situation the libraries will face an immediate problem of how to select and acquire books in different languages. We may call this problem number one. Selection tools for books in different languages are practically non-existing. The Indian National bibliography which could be used for selection of books in different Indian languages is hopelessly out of date. Publishers' Catalogues of language books are not so easily available as are the Publishers Catalogues of foreign publications. There are no reviewing periodicals in any of our languages such as the Times Literary Supplement, N. Y. Times Book Review, British Book News, Book

Review Digest etc. The Weekly or Sunday editions of National newspapers take scant notice of Indian language publications and language papers also do not much care to review language publications on any scale or purposefully. National organizations such as Sahitya Akademi, National Book Trust, and National Book Development Board which have the avowed objectives of promoting the reading of good books in our languages have so far done nothing to provide an easy medium through which people will know regularly, authentically and authoritatively which good books are available in our languages. The publishers and booksellers of language books have also not done anything cooperatively to help librarians select their publications. As a result, the only dependable source of knowing which new books are published in all Indian languages is the Accession List published by the U. S. Library of Congress Book Procurement Centre in Delhi. An Accession List is never so much a selection tool. But it is helpful. It is not however available to all libraries for obvious reason. The next best means of selecting new books in any Indian language is to visit the book shop which stocks books in a particular language or in different languages. But at that stage another hurdle confronts the library.

A multilingual library has to have staff knowing several languages. Sometime in future, every staff member of the Library will know at least three languages. Even so, the libraries will need staff who among themselves will know all the languages in which the readers will demand suitable books. This is very expensive need. But it is unavoidable. In a city like Bombay or Delhi, a big library will need to have staff qualified to select, acquire, process and service books in every Indian language not to speak of foreign languages also if it is a University Library. The staff pattern of our libraries will require a radical change. In fact, in a big library in which there are sizeable collections in different languages, each collection requires a complete staff knowing that language well. The set theories about library organization advocate two main patterns of organization : Functional and subjectwise. Occasionally there is a variation by form or format. The language of the reading material has not been taken into account to set the pattern of organisation. A new pattern of organization on the basis of area has already emerged in the West so that large libraries have divisions such as Oriental, Middle East, Far East, South Asian, Slavic languages or East European, African etc. In our context however, the language problem is peculiarly complex. We have many languages each one of which is distinct from another. Another dimension to the language problem in our libraries is that many of our languages have different scripts. The script of the languages of the books in which Western libraries are overwhelmingly stocked is mainly Roman; possibly Cyrillic which is very much similar. Their problem is therefore, simplified by the single script. What is even more significant is that in the west the language of the reading material is no problem at all in public or small libraries. It is only in research libraries that language and script have any relevance. In India, however the languages and the scripts have an impact on all kinds of libraries, public, departmental, academic and even research libraries if this last category relates to research in humanities. This is the second hurdle which confronts our libraries.

Cataloguing and classifying books in Indian languages is not very easy. The names of Indian authors for entry purposes present a bewildering variety. Some efforts at standardizing entry works for Indian names have been made and they are helpful. But our Library schools by and large ignore the necessity of teaching methodically and intensely the cataloguing of

Indian language books. As a result, the new graduates have not the faintest idea of the problem involved and even such standardization of names for cataloging purposes which has been accomplished remains largely in some book. There is not a single code for cataloguing books in any of the Indian languages and the catalogue cards for Indian language books in different libraries show a wide variety of practice. Alphabatization of author cards is yet another headache as there is no code for filing, either. Many libraries avoid the difficulties involved in different languages, different scripts and absence of codes by adopting the Roman script for their catalogue of Indian language books. The necessity to have staff qualified in different language is by no means eliminated. On the contrary, transliteration into one script from ten different scripts each having its own sound pattern presents a peculiar problem. Indian National Bibliography adopted the Roman script only for the name of authors and titles of books in Indian languages. The result has been funny, if only to put it mildly. But even that would have been tolerable and also helpful if the Bibliography had been published weekly and regularly as the British National Bibliography. Multilingual libraries in the country would have quickly followed INB entries and expedited processing. But INB is roughly two years out of date.

The scheme of classification which is largely used in India is Dewey Decimal Classification and it requires much improvisation for classifying books in Indian languages. These improvisations require to be standardised and applied uniformly. There may be copyright difficulties. But library schools have not worried about the inapplicability of D. C. to Indian language material and they go on teaching D. C. in total disregard of the fact that graduates will face some real problems when they begin to practice librarianship. The Colon Scheme has more applicability for Indian language material. But Dewey is beautifully simple and Colon is disappointingly complex. It over-reaches the simple interest of a reader to locate a book on the shelf. Quite aside from this, neither D. C. nor C. C. are available in each of our languages as yet. In other words, one has to use English language subject headings in the catalogue by translating them into the pertinent language. Recently however, a subject heading list in Hindi has been prepared by Prabhu Narayan Gour of Bhagalpur University, and the late Shri R. S. Parkhi translated C. C. into Marathi some years ago. If the element of language of a book, which is subordinated in C. C. to secure the APUPA arrangement in which few readers are interested, is restored to the first position so that all books in a library will be first divided by language and then the class number is appended to it, C. C. has undoubtedly more validity for classifying Indian language material appropriately. Unfortunately most of our library schools pay only lip regard to Colon or where they emphasise Colon they emphasise its depth application which is not always needed and overlook its simple but significant validity for accommodating Indian language material.

Organizing the multilingual reading material separately by languages presents several problems. Separate accession registers, separate catalogues, separate stacks, bay and shelf guides in the script and the language of the books are required. The catalogue cards have to be hand written if there are no typewriter facilities. And above all the binders have to have tooling facilities in different scripts and different languages. This last necessity is beyond any library's control.

Such is the complexity of the language problems in the library. Library literature published in India or elsewhere does not easily disclose any serious attention paid to this problem\*. It may be that the problem posed here in hypothetical or unreal and our libraries with book stock in various Indian languages are doing wonderfully well without being confronted by the hurdles mentioned above. On the other hand there is at least one library in the country which attempts to cope with reading material in almost every Indian language and it has not been doing well, leave aside wonderfully well.



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\* A series of papers were presented on "International linguistic aspects of library science" at the 31st Council meeting of I. F. L. A. held at Helsinki, Finland in August, 1963. Presenting the Report on the National Library in Lausanne or "use of languages in catalogues and bibliographies in Switzerland" the Director of the University Library at Zurich pointed out "the National Library since it must satisfy the demands of readers of different languages, has chosen for its subject catalogues linguistically neutral system of Universal Decimal Classification."

## ETHICS OF BEING A LIBRARIAN

By

GIRJA KUMAR

The cultural revolution has at least done one good turn to China. The demigods have been overthrown from their seemingly secure pedestal. The king is now without clothes for all to see in the market place. The cultural revolution in library profession of India is long overdue. Critical self examination of our achievements and failures needs to be done before we proceed any further. Frankness admixed with a liberal dose of boldness is required to make an objective assessment of the situation. It is high time that the spade is called a spade. There should be no regrets, if some heads roll in the process.

The profession has come of age in the last quarter century. Achievements in the short span of 30 to 40 years are creditable. Very few countries have produced a librarian of the calibre of Dr. S. R. Ranganathan in recent years. The progressive measure of the University Grants Commission in upgrading the scales of pays of librarians has a few parallels in other countries. The measure will no doubt begin to show results after about a decade or so by attracting better qualified young men and women to the profession. Research libraries have grown by leaps and bounds, with the added advantage of being not bound down by the weight of tradition as in Great Britain and on the continent.

Our young librarians have a sound grounding in crucial departments of the art of librarianship because of the progressive library education in India. A large fund of professional expertise has been built up through the establishment of many library schools spread all over the country. Indigenous professional training in any field is the sound foundation for establishing healthy traditions. The advantage of sound training can be realized by comparing our situation with developing countries with no or little facilities for professional training at the local level. It is thus to be recognized that library profession has achieved a great deal in very difficult situation compounded of traditional prejudices, low status of the profession and comparatively low emoluments.

### PROFESSIONAL CONTROVERSIES

Every bright picture has a dark side. The library profession is no exception to this general rule. The controversy that has dominated the thinking of all librarians in India has been the attitude towards the Colon scheme of library classification, and other ideas expounded by Dr. Ranganathan in his prolific writings. The debate has hardly been at the intel-

lectual plane. The merit of the issue has been lost in the quarrel that has extended well over 15 years. Instead of taking this opportunity to raise the status of the profession in the eyes of general public in India as well as of library profession at the international level, masochistic pleasure seems to have been derived by the opposing camps in bringing down the whole tribe of librarians in India as lowliest of the lowliest through mutual recriminations. The selfdestructive process has been carried out so successively in recent years that in the general estimate the librarians have been cut down to size more than it was necessary. The term 'librarian' is no longer respectable in the academic circles. The first reaction at meeting someone from this tribe is to raise the eyebrows with an expression of disbelief written all over the face.

### **LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**

The seeds of dissension in the profession go back to the All India Library Conference held at Hyderabad in 1954. The best part of the Conference was the sumptuous meals in Moghul style served day-after-day on the campus of the Osmania. The most unfortunate part of the story was the parting of ways between Ranganathan and the authorities of the Indian Library Association. The old man has never looked back, with the result that the organization seemed to have been handicapped. The Association has unfortunately been an object of heated controversy since then.

The impact of the break among the librarians is to be evidenced in the precious little work done by the organisation in the past fifteen years. In the picturesque words of the Soviet leader Mikoyan, used however in another context, the librarian association slept while the whole of the East was awake. The unseemly quarrels over the elections, purposelessness of periodical conferences and seminars, irregular release of periodical publications, lowly status of the professional organization in the eyes of the profession and generally cynical attitude shown towards leadership in library profession are special features that characterize the Indian Library Association.

It was high time that the association became a common platform for librarians for all hues and shades, irrespective of the ideological predilection governing their minds. The Library Association should have been the true representative of the common aspirations of the profession. The issues that exercise us should have found their expression through this august body, which will thus become the true spokesman of librarians to the outside world. The responsibility could not be merely limited to being the watch dog. The same should be extended to comprehend much broader tasks like that being the form for intellectual debate and exchange of ideas between the librarians and the outside world. The best library thought could find expression through the columns of its periodical publications and monographs. The minimum that needed to be done by the authorities of the Association was to bring back Ranganathan to its fold and treat him with the honours due to a patriarch.

### **INTELLECTUAL DEBATE**

The greatest casualty of the unseemly controversy in library profession has been the possibility of a free debate on fundamentals of library science. The thought of Ranganathan

needs to be examined dispassionately at the theoretical level and through its application at the practical level to find out its validity. The total acceptance of his ideas is not necessary for being counted among the faithful, Ranganathan being the greatest iconoclast in many ways. He is constantly engaged in demolishing his earlier ideas. The revisions are purposeful and, in fact, form an integral part of a systematic pattern.

The debate in the profession needs to be raised above the personal level. It needs to be carried out at the intellectual plane, so that no motivations are read into this business. The situation has unfortunately raised such a pause that any free expression today is construed in a partisan fashion. The young who are bound to be naturally sceptical in a normal situation hesitate to express freely because of the general disapproval by the elders.

#### **FUTURE TASKS**

Having restored to the professional organization the status it deserves in the normal scheme of things, our thought must turn to the recapitulation of major tasks to be achieved in the near future. The consideration of objectives necessarily brings to mind the statement of policy to be implemented. There needs to be a full debate so that a detailed statement of objectives for library development can be drawn up for implementation in the next decade or so. A fresh look also needs to be given to the courses in library science, so that these can be related closely to the utilitarian purposes. The best plans are likely to go awry in the absence of close checks at every stage of implementation of plans of library development. It is thus very necessary to devise professional standards to assure participation by the representatives of profession at the various stages of implementation of plans. Decision-makers have so far paid scant attention to the representation of the profession in elite bodies. The position needs to be rectified at the earliest.

The foregoing description has to do with the ideal situation very much to be wished for in the future. The internecine warfare conducted with no holds barred has not only made the professional organization ineffective, but it has resulted in the diminution of the role of the librarian in decision-making processes. This state of affairs is equally true of academic, government and state libraries with a few honourable exceptions.

#### **FOREIGN EXPERT**

The most disturbing role has been that of the foreign expert in library matters. The situation has come to such a pass because of the abdication of responsibility on the part of individual librarians as well as professional organizations in India.

It would be unjust to tar all the foreign experts with the same brush. This country had the distinction of receiving several distinguished library experts from abroad. The exceptions however prove the rule. The general run-of-the-mill librarians from foreign countries who have come to advise academic institutions and governmental organizations are men of low calibre. Ironically enough, most of the time the advice has been called from abroad, when the same could have been made available very cheaply from local resources. A frontal assault needs to be launched because the tendency to call for foreign assistance and advice has become endemic.

There is the instance of a foremost Indian Institute of Technology inviting very junior professionals from a medium-sized technological institute in the United States for acting as librarians year after year. The Institute of Technology was not to be left behind by another institute of similar status which saddled itself with a meaningless report on library development from a so-called foreign expert. The foremost example is that of an important university located in a metropolitan city depending totally on the advice of a series of library experts from the same country. These are all recent instances. The lure in all these cases happens to be the monetary assistance offered by foreign foundations and governmental agencies. The slogan should be that we are for assistance without any foreign advice. The present writer is prepared further by calling for moratorium for the next five years.

Hospitality to the foreigner is an age-old Indian tradition. It should, however, be extended outside the premises of the inner court of the house. The Inner Sanctum should be like the way Englishman views his house—no less than a castle. The advice of the foreigner is totally uncalled for in many library matters because we have already developed enough expertise in the country excepting in very few specialized fields. Allowing him an opportunity to minutely examine the day-to-day working of libraries is inexcusable. This is unfortunately the case in many instances. The professional organisations need to act as watchdogs to prevent the existing situations from developing further and by putting total stop to future repetitions. It is our hope that the foreign guest takes this advice in the proper spirit in which it is rendered to him.

### **CULTURAL INFLEXIBILITY**

We are liable to take extreme positions. It is probably inherent in our culture. We have a tendency to accept or reject *in toto*. The library profession is dominated by the two schools of thought. We have at one extreme those who implicitly place their faith in the Indian school of thought to the total rejection of foreign elements. Several of them take special pleasure in making insidious comparison with the ideas developed in foreign countries. This is specially so in the fields of classification and cataloguing. They exude a kind of special confidence not called for by the facts of the situation. Little bit of humility should do them a lot of good because they do not stand on their legs but rest on the shoulders of a giant like Ranganathan. No less inexcusable is the attitude of those representing the other extreme. They refuse to recognize any virtue in contributions by the Indian school of thought in library science. They not only reject outright the native contribution, but actually go all out to defend out-dated techniques and theories imported from abroad. The extreme positions taken by the conflicting groups leave precious little room for manoeuvre for the objective critic.

The answer does not lie in rejecting or accepting *in toto* either foreign or local products, but in discovering a *via media* so that the totality of knowledge available to us is viewed in a single perspective. It is wrong in principle to perpetuate dichotomy between the local and foreign elements. Ranganathan is after all in the true tradition of Dewey, Cutter and Bliss. The Indian school is not something apart from library thought in general, because it is only one segment of the total stream. The controversy should thus resolve itself because it serves no purpose. It may have actually retarded the development of library profession in a proper fashion. While

taking due pride in the achievements of the Indian school, it is necessary to recognise the significant contributions made by foreign librarians spread over several centuries. This frame of mind may do some good to those totally impervious to the blandishment of indigeneous contributions in library science. The work done in India in library science is of the highest order. It does not necessarily await any recognition within the country, because of having earned it abroad. The admixture of the local with the foreign should prove beneficial like the mixing of two races into blood stream.

### OLDER GENERATION

The older generation of librarians is unable to rectify the mistakes committed by them. The controversy resulting from the introduction of unorthodox ideas of Ranganathan is too personal for the same generation. They are either totally committed to Ranganathan or opposed to him. The positions are taken without examining the merits of the case. There are grounds for believing that very few in the opposition camps have attempted an intellectual assessment of the contributions made by the Indian school of thought. A great deal of opposition to the great man seems to be on personal ground. The greatest casualty of this unseemly contribution is Dr. S. R. Ranganathan himself because his ideas are rejected in many instances on purely sentimental ground. Being a sensitive person, he is bound to be hurt deeply at the emotional plane. We have thus to watch the odd spectacle of Ranganathan receiving international recognition before he came to be accepted on the home ground.

Similar is the situation with regard to the attitude towards foreign expert on the part of the older generation. The foreign librarian, more especially the expert, is given a recognition much beyond his own capacities or the bounds of normal decorum. Several meetings of librarians are still vivid in the mind of the present writer because the natives extolled to follow the example of librarians of information service libraries set up by foreign missions in India. These instances only typify the present situation. The older generation has seen hard times including the enslavement of this country by Great Britain. The whole attitude towards the foreigner is governed by their commitment to the past history. They are not in a position to rise above the prejudices ingrained in them over a period of several decades. The next generation by catching the time by forelock should start with a clean slate.

### YOUTHFUL LEADERSHIP

The total 'cultural revolution' by the young librarians is the need of the hour to sweep all cobwebs inherited from the past. The young may be defined as persons about the age of thirty, still untouched by past prejudices and having enough idealism left in them to initiate fundamental changes at the leadership level. They have, besides, a bright future opening before them because of the opportunities that never came in the way of the older generation. The total break is *sine qua non* in the present situation. **TAKING OVER OF LEADERSHIP FROM THE OLDER GENERATION IS AN ETHICAL NECESSITY.**

India is one of the few countries in the world run by the older generation. This situation is typical of political leadership as well as of library profession in the country. The Indian Library Association needs to be taken by the younger generation. If the association is continued to be

run in the old fashion in future, serious consideration needs to be given to explore the possibility of alternative forms of organizational expression. Intellectual debate in the profession needs to be revived so that a clear picture emerges about the validity of as well as relevance of new or old ideas in the context of our situation. The running debate is to be conducted without involving personalities in the seminar, conferences and through publications. The library profession is to be assured an honourable place in decision-making involving development of library system as a whole. This process would involve the displacement of the older generation from senior positions over a number of years. It is hoped that all these processes will take place in the normal course so that the library profession plays a role that it will be entitled to in the social system.





## LIBRARY LAW IN MAHARASHTRA

BY

T. D. WAGNIS

There are five states in India which have their library services governed by Library law. They are Madras, Andhra, Mysore, Kerala and Maharashtra. Legislation did not come in these states out of the initiative of the Government but was the outcome of the devoted efforts of library workers in those states. They were backed by the Indian Library Association. For nearly thirty-eight years the Association passed resolutions calling upon the Governments to enact library laws. The models of laws were drafted by the Librarian-Laurate of India.

All these laws have been in operation for less than twenty years and it is obviously too early, at present, to judge the results of their working. One conclusion, however, leaps to the eyes, that the results have not been outstanding. None expected that there would be a new heaven and a new earth overnight, as a result of legislation. But it was legitimately expected that they would at least show promise of future successes.

The reasons for the discouraging results are not far to seek. In the first place it must be realised that libraries are social institution and can thrive and prosper with social growth. The standard of living has an important bearing on the fate of libraries. Those who cannot think of where their next meal is coming from, are not expected to be interested in keeping themselves informed, entertained or educated by a study of books. Secondly, the system of education also has to make students feel the necessity of using libraries. In the present context the students are keen only on passing examinations and hence the spate of guides and cribs renders superfluous the study of reference books. Students are not called upon to help themselves which is the quintessence of both education and library use. Thirdly, library workers are disgruntled that promoters of library legislation are not inclined to free the direction of libraries from the thralldom of the Director of Education.

The Government of Maharashtra which has been the latest to make library law, have however effected this bifurcation. Its action evoked transports of joy in the library Associations of the State. The state, the regional and the district library associations, in their conferences, have gone into rapturous paeans of praise of the Government. But there have been also a few dissident voices who fear that the joyous singers may find themselves in the position of old Kaspar who regarded the Battle of Blenheim as a glorious victory. When his grand-children asked him what good it did to the people, the only answer which Kaspar could make was "Why, that I cannot tell but it was a famous victory. Great praise the Duke of Marlbro won and our good prince Eugene.

Why these forebodings cross the mind of the dissidents is because the library law of Maharashtra flies in the face of the practice and principles of Public Libraries. An analysis of its salient features will show how.

The Government regard it expedient to establish, maintain, organise and develop public libraries. They set about doing it by establishing and maintaining a network of public libraries serving the needs of the entire state. The network will have at its head a State Central Library and four regional libraries for the four divisions of the State—Nagpur, Aurangabad, Bombay and Poona. They will be managed by the Government. At the lower levels of district and taluka towns and villages Government will ascertain if the local authority or a private society or a trust would be in a position to serve the people as a public library. If a suitable authority or society is available the Government will entrust to them the management of the local library and pay them an adequate grant. If they do not find a suitable agency they will themselves run a local library. In addition to these libraries, run or sponsored by the Government for public use, Government will notify some libraries as public libraries for the purpose of this Act. Either for manning or inspecting this complex of libraries Government will bring into being a State Library Service members of which will be Government servants.

Government estimate that putting into practice this plan will involve expenditure of Rs. 33.08 lakhs out of which Government stands committed already to an expenditure of Rs. Rs. 8.08 lakhs. The excess that Government will have to find will be Rs. 25 lakhs annually.

The Government's proposal to establish and run State Central and four regional libraries is in consonance with universal practice. These libraries serve the State in the same way in which the National Library serves the Country. Conventionally they are financed by the revenues of the State and administered either departmentally as in the U.S.A. for the Library of Congress or by an autonomous body as in U.K. for the British Museum. They have a distinct objective. They are mostly reference libraries. They are not expected to lend books to individual readers. They will be the libraries for libraries. They will help the libraries at the district level in the search and supply of rare books. They will house comprehensive collections of publications in the State and the region and materials throwing light on local topics, places and persons. They will have costly reference books and will be the agency for getting inaccessible materials from bigger or special libraries.

It would have been appreciated if the law had given an indication of the scope of activities of these libraries. The Government could have also stated whether they would start from

scratch or make use of existing Central and Regional libraries. The Central Library of the State of Maharashtra has been in existence since 1950. It is housed in the Town Hall Bombay, and managed by the Asiatic Society of Bombay, by virtue of a trust deed made between the Government and the Asiatic Society. Similarly the regional library at Poona is housed in Vishrambag and is managed by the Poona Municipal Corporation. It would be definitely economical to build round the nucleus of these existing libraries. But there may be legal difficulties for the transfer. In such circumstances not only will the annual expenditure exceed the estimate but there will be delay in implementation leading to sickness of hopes deferred.

At the level of the district and other lower level libraries Government will institute libraries of their own only if they draw blank in their search for a local authority or a private society or trust who would show readiness and competence to work as public libraries. The chances are that Government will always find private bodies both willing and able to function as public libraries. These private bodies will be the existing subscription libraries which have served for years together, the small number of members who have paid modest fees for their library service. Government will give them additional funds by way of annual grants, the quantum of which will probably vary directly as their own contribution and the population and inversely as their lack of development economically and educationally. In fact for the last twenty years or so this has been the pattern of organisation in Maharashtra.

In the opinion of Library experts this pattern has certain inherent defects. Firstly the libraries have limits of growth set by fees which is their chief source of sustenance. Some well managed libraries maintain lists of thousands of readers waiting to be admitted as members because they do not have room accommodation or sufficient number of books for them. Naturally more than one members' library springs up in a town. In their pride of independence they are not disposed to co-operate. As the cultural level is more or less the same everywhere the book stocks of the libraries are much of a muchness. Having once decided on the policy of giving grant to a subscription library the Government find it logically difficult to deny grants to other subscription libraries situated in the same town. It is then argued that Government are justified in giving grants to all libraries, which satisfy minimum standards of service much in the manner in which Government give grants to schools, which measure up to standards laid in the grant-in-aid code.

Experienced organisers of libraries then point out that schools and libraries have different objectives. In schools the teachers aim at cultivating the minds of pupils to a stage at which the pupils are adept in the art of learning by themselves. The means employed to achieve this result are a set of text books. They can be the same in all schools. In the libraries, on the other hand, the organizers aim at stimulating and fostering the habits of self education. The only attraction which libraries offer is that the readers are free to choose their subjects and are free to determine the time they will take to learn them. For the attainment of this object the organisers are required to house books on a wide variety of subjects. Both the matter and the manner of its presentation has to be diversified to suit the abilities and inclinations of readers. Such a book-stock costs more than the text books required in schools. This is the reason why Government have to beam their resources on one library only, so that it is enabled to bring the body of citizens under its ameliorative and uplifting influence. This is the modern concept of a viable

library unit. In the 1964 "Libraries and Museums Act" of Great Britain, the Country has been regarded as the unit and parishes have been deprived of the right of running libraries. In the Maharashtra Bill there is no indication of an awareness of this concept on the part of the drafters.

One of the conditions of giving grants is that the receiving library will give free service to all, whether they be members or not. The subscription library is thus called on to add one more class members to their own hierarchy of patrons, life members, First, Second and Third class members. Constitutionally the management of a subscription library is incapable of giving the same attention and consideration to a nonpayer as it has to give to its paying members in order to regain his good will and membership. The result is the nonpaying members of the public are reduced to the straits of begging for services which they should claim as a right. Instead of becoming a centre of democratic equality the library becomes the septic focus of disintegration in a none too homogeneous society.

In spite of these drawbacks the pattern of organisation has been recommended. The reason may be the pattern is twice blessed. It pleases the Government and it blesses the subscription libraries. Government can count on the member's fees as lessening their liability for library expenditure and the subscription libraries see a prospect of growing fat at the cost of having to submit a sheaf of returns to dispensers of largess !

To be ready to step in where no other agency is available may betoken the Governments awareness of the library potential but the ingenuity of a legal provision making Government assume this responsibility is only exceeded by the ingenuity of a conduct or using the elephant's trunk to pick up needles. It can be done but is wasteful of energy. Library service is a local service and Government must devolve it on local government bodies making it one of their compulsory functions.

Will not the proposal to have a State library service squander the slender library fund on bureaucrats? If the members are called upon to man the various libraries, it will betray Government's want of faith in devolution and decentralisation, and foist on library management servants who will not be amenable to local discipline. If they are intended to be employed as inspectors one must despair of progress. When Government have dithered to take speedy action on such vital inspection reports as those of Public Accounts Committee why ask the inspectors to produce more futitarian papers? Inspection has a corrosive effect on the person of the Inspector in that he does not have to do any creative work himself and has to allow his know-how to atrophy for lack of exercise.

It seems the Government have put the wrong fact forward in launching this law. Their definition of a public library is misconceived.

They define it as:

- (a) A library established and maintained by the State Government for the use of Public.
- (b) A library recognised by the Director for the purpose of grant-in-aid from the Library fund.

- (c) Any other library which the state Govt. by notification in the official gazette declares to be a public library for the purpose of this Act.

This is at variance with the professionally accepted meaning of the term. In popular language it is described as a library of the people by the people for the people. Three features are regarded as its distinguishing marks. (a) They render free service to all (b) They are financed out of public funds (c) They are operated by local self government agencies. Any Unesco report on Public libraries will bear out the validity of these marks.

As the law stands therefore it is not calculated to promote either increase or improvement in library service. The threefold increase in Government expenditure will titillate the palates of organizers of subscription libraries and enable the Government to hug to their bosom the illusion of having a library law.

Talking of illusions reminds one that the law is really illusory. It is a legalistic window-dressing of Governments' executive action. When do Government make laws? Broadly speaking it is, either when they want to empower themselves or legally constituted authorities to levy and collect new taxes, or when they lay new duties and responsibilities on individuals or corporations in the form of 'Do this' or 'Do not do this.' Does the Maharashtra Library Law do either of these things? What it has done could as well have been done by an executive order, viz. create a separate department, increase the grants, appoint diverse advisory committees etc. etc. In fact this was the advice given by a Committee presided over by an eminent lawyer Shri A. A. A. Fyjee.

But the library association of the State persisted in demanding a law and Government were caught in a compliant mood !



# PROFESSIONAL GATHERINGS

BY

D. N. MARSHALL

Indian Library Association, ever since its establishment has been arranging periodically a gathering of the librarians in India. They meet at convenient centres in different parts of India. The seventeenth of such gathering is taking place at Indore. Looking into the proceedings of these gatherings over the past years and trying to assess the results of such conferences, a question naturally arises in one's mind as to what worth they all were. Has the profession, by such means, achieved any desired goal or have these Conferences been just social meetings and nothing more.

Any serious attempt at such evaluation reveals the fact that while a number of resolutions have been passed, social contacts established and views exchanged, any tangible achievement as such is rather still elusive. It is not known if the Indian Library Association lays any claims to any specific achievements. It is for consideration, therefore, whether a part of the session be set apart usefully for introspection. An effort may well be made to examine the objectives of such gatherings, and correlate with the objectives the mechanics of the arrangements made for their realisation.

The first and foremost necessity is to clarify the object of such meetings and then to examine whether the object is capable of being achieved in the circumstances under which these gatherings are held. Factors such as the time limit, the composition of the gathering, the nature of the subject discussed, and the follow up, if there has been any, have all to be considered and analysed. To cite an instance, to assure effective participation in discussion, it is necessary to see that the participants of such gatherings do not find comprehension of proceedings difficult because of language media or other reasons. It is similarly necessary to analyse other factors also. In the light of such analysis certain conclusions are bound to emerge and these may well be utilised in making arrangements for the future.

From the point of view of financial liabilities also, a scrutiny is well worth a trial to assess whether money spent on such conferences can be diverted more usefully for other objects of greater advantage to the profession. In a poor country like ours, this consideration should be ever present and more so when the professional organisations themselves are not well off financially.

Another point for consideration is how best to avoid duplication or overlapping of such gatherings held by different professional bodies. Many similar conferences are held by State or

local library associations. Such gatherings are also convened by the IASLIC, U. G. C. and other bodies. If such gatherings are deemed necessary, a coordinated time table would be helpful and so effective in attaining the objects of such gatherings.

The professional organisation should aim always to see that the image of the profession so flourishes as to secure some recognition for the individuals who man it. Only then the organisation can wield its influence in moulding public opinion in the interest of library development and in gaining for its members, individually and collectively, and also for libraries in general that due recognition of their role in national progress. The insignificant spread of public libraries in the country and the absence almost of public comment on the deplorable situation as it exists today indicates that the public opinion is not what it should be. It is noteworthy that there was hardly any public or professional protest at the wiping Baroda Library Movement out of existence by the Government of the day. And even today there is no clamour for the establishment of public libraries. These are pointers to raise doubts whether these periodical gatherings are in any way serving their real purpose.



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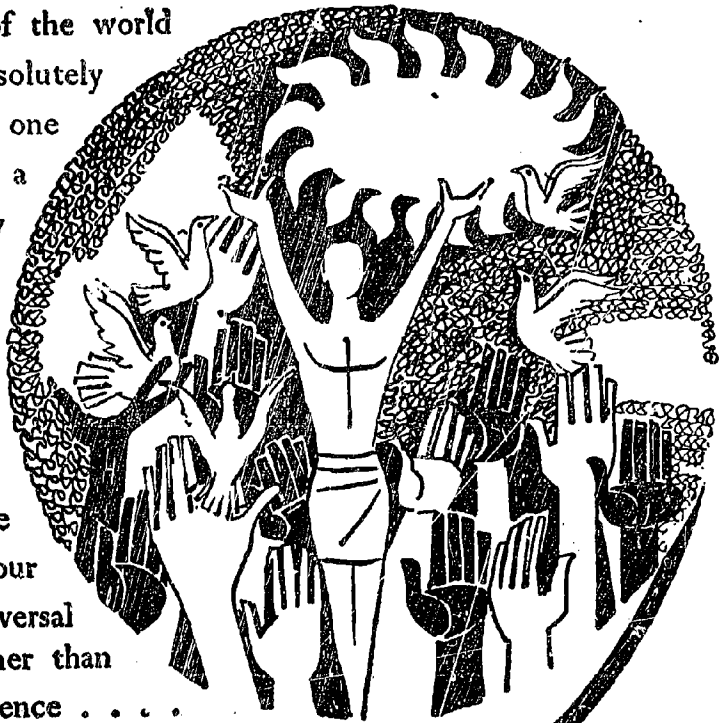
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Engineering	1,050
Ayurved	235
Fine Arts	631
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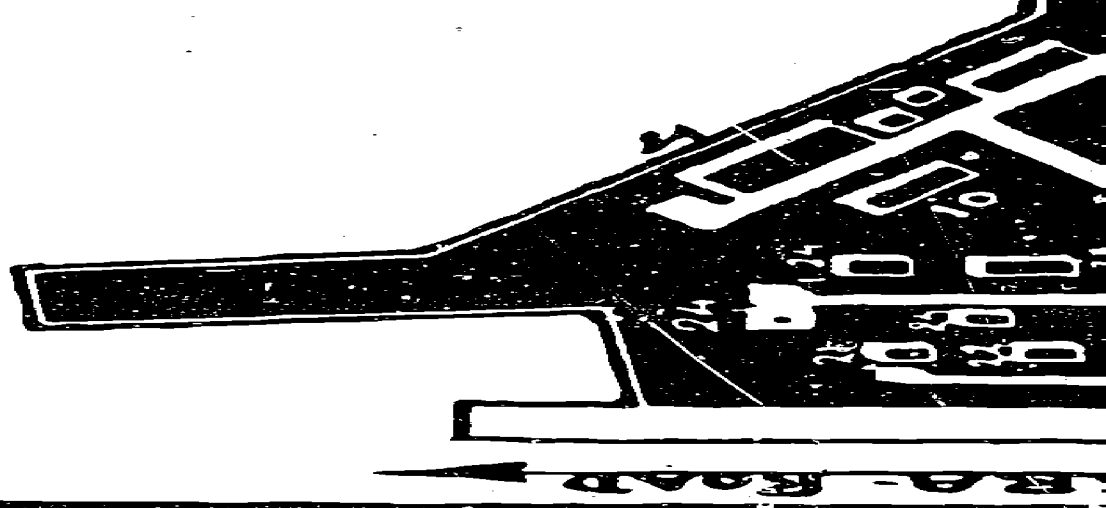
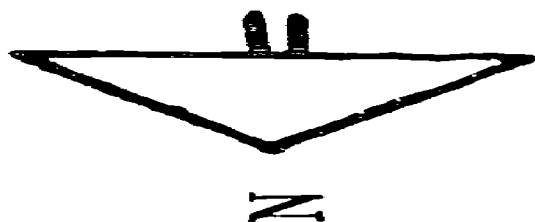
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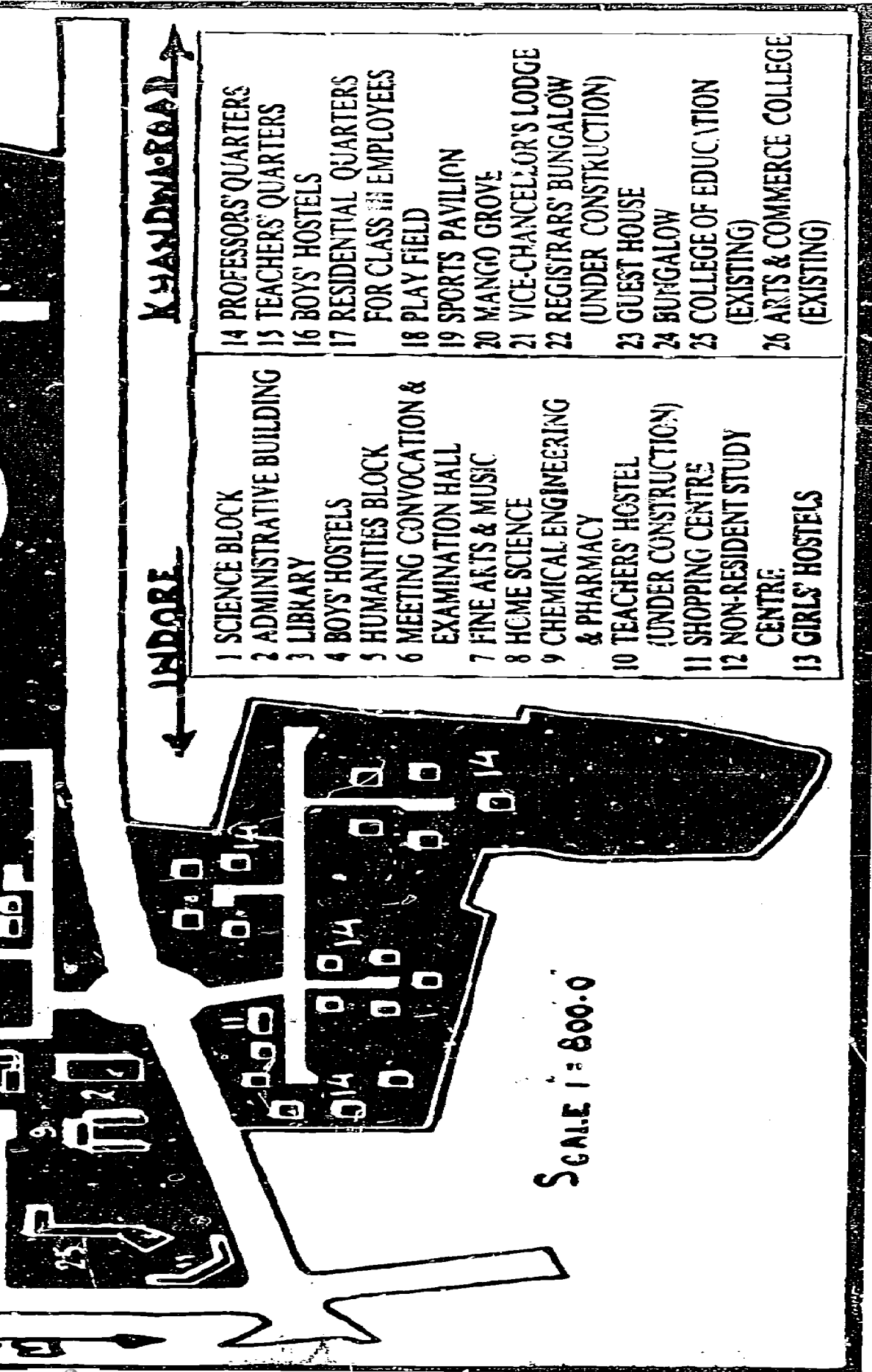
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